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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. VIII.—NO. 20. WEEKLY EDITION. MARCH 18, 1871.

Grant vs. Sumner.

BATTLE IN THE SENATE.

Eloquent Speeches on Both Sides.

Action of the Caucus Sustained.

THE WIND SOWN—WILL THE WHIRLWIND BE REAPED?

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 10, 1871.

It was hoped in various quarters that when the caucus assembled this morning some action would be taken by which debate in the Senate on the caucus report should be avoided. Leading Senators last night declared that the party whip must be brought to bear upon those who were restive under the action of the caucus in deposing Sumner, and that all disaffectants must be given to understand that they would be held politically responsible if, after the report was once agreed to, they should take occasion to protest against it But that hope was doomed to the customary earthly disappointment. The more Mr. Sumner's decapitation was talked over the more necessary did several Senators conclude that this action should be protected against and the independence of individual opinions asserted. Sorrow over Sumner's attempted downfall was about equally divided with indignation at Cameron's elevation to this, the most important of all positions in the Senate. Several who voted favorably on the San Domingo resolutions ventured the opinion that the Executive interference was being carried a little too far, and that the Foreign Relations Committee should be left entirely free to act on the question of the annexation of San Domingo, or higher view, the annexation of San Domingo, on the return of the Commission.

At ten o'clock this morning the caucus assembled, and Pratt, of Indiana, made a motion to reconsider the vote by which the committee's report was adopted in the caucus of yesterday. Mr. Conkling immediately moved to lay that motion on the table, which was agreed to by a vote of 37 to 21. Those who were among those not young. This action was soon announced abroad. All talk and gossip and rumor had the effect of densely packing the Senate galleries to-day. The House was entirely deserted, so fortunate was the opportunity to have the entree of the floor took advantage of. Indeed all the vacant chairs and seats which could be found. Mr. Sumner himself was in his seat, looking as unconcerned as in those old historic times when he had shaken the entire country by one of his magnetic and magnificent speeches in behalf of human freedom. He was the lion of the day, and everyone to whom his face was familiar intuitively sought him out and watched him. He looked somewhat pale, but in his demeanor was not otherwise there was nothing to show that he was more interested in the debate than the thousands of others who were present.

Immediately after the reading of the minutes, a motion was made by Conkling that Mr. Morton of Howe then arose and proceeded to make a report on standing committees, as agreed upon in caucus. Mr. Wade immediately objected, and thus the report must be postponed for at least one day. Thus fairly announced, debate commenced. Speeches were made the point that once again in the history of parties the Executive was seeking to dictate the action of the Senate, and the avowal was made by several that of this body with the White House was declared sufficient reason why the Senate, with its long-conceded fitness and experience for committee positions. He was interrupted by Mr. Howe, who wished to correct the impression that the social relations with the President and Secretary of State caused the contemplated change. He asserted it on authority that the Massachusetts Senator was personally agreeable to these two high officials, and was not on speaking terms with the latter, having not been on speaking intercourse with him whatever. The Wisconsin Senator had reason to bitterly repent this indiscreet admission before the debate for the day was finished. In view of the line of argument adopted by others who supported and defended his report, it had been agreed beforehand that all facts of a personal character should be kept out of sight. That any attempt to magnify into a personal question the opposition to his tack on Sumner should be studiously avoided, and that it should be held to be only one of those little things which happen once in a while, and which, while having no special significance, and, least of all, any political importance, but which will serve as a Senatorial orator, and his matter ordinarily is such that it yielded no mass for the mouth of which the bushels of chaff; but to-day he made a vigorous and earnest speech in denunciation of the whole affair, and pettifogged with all miserable zeal to show that the fact of the Senate required a change in the chairmanship of committees every two years, and that such changes had been indulged in from time to time, personal, without occasioning newspaper paragraphs. And Nye and Stewart also labored in their own peculiar manner to create the impression that the matter was a mere tempi. Nye, the buffoon of the Senate, told the same number of stories as each of which he found equally applicable in his Sutro tunnel effort, his San Domingo oration and his numerous other harangues during the winter session. With that immeasurable freshness and self-composure which seems him only in his native Nevada sage, Nye expressed his wonder that there should be any more fuss made over Sumner's removal than the making of a change in the clerkship of any of the committees. It was the boast of the Senate that it was largely governed by the committees, and that it was the height of the absurdity of any comparison very easily. When he seemed to be championing his cause and defending his act, Howe tried to shrink out of it, but did not place himself in a better light before the Senate. Mr. Howe's speech was chiefly his own differences with Sumner, and of the continuous inharmonious relations which had existed between them, were full of tender and charitable feeling, and he became very eloquent as he announced his purpose to lead the attempt to degrace him by men to whom his efforts had opened the way to office, and, after standing for an hour stoutly and faltdrivly, he closed by asking Mr. Wilson to withdraw the motion to postpone, as it was useless.

Mr. Sherman set forth his view of caucus obligations, and argued against any effort to appeal to the Democrats to help them overthrow the decision of the caucus majority. He took occasion to declare, with great emphasis, that the great question had decided the action of the committee unjustifiable, unnecessary and impolitic, and that the independence of the Senate ought to be asserted against the dictation, domination or interference of the Executive.

When Morton spoke, however, he further set this side. He spent nearly his whole force in urging the obligation of the minority to stand by the action of the caucus. He was followed by Cameron, who had nothing to do with it.

Mr. Cragin declared the act, but said he should abide by the decision of a majority of the party.

Mr. Wilson said he was something of a party man, and he would stand by it. Mr. Morrill said that the interest of the party he strove to prevent the consummation of an act which would do more to disrupt and weaken the Republican organization than anything else. There was a higher duties than those to the party. The first duty is to do right. The dangerous thing is to submit without a remonstrance to the despotic declaration of petty men. After brief speeches from Davis and Thurman, who expressed their standing by and voting against the report and an amendment proposed and withdrawn by Bayard to change the name of the Committee to the Committee on Personal Relations, and the motion to postpone was lost and the motion to adopt carried.

The Republicans who favored postponement withdrew from the Senate chamber before the vote was taken. Immediately upon the announcement of the vote, as in the case of San Domingo, numerous Senators called upon Grant to inform him of his victory. The President was very jubilant and received their congratulations condescendingly. He gave his visitors to understand that he knew the issue could have no other termination. There is no other talk on the streets to-night. Even with those who take no interest in politics the conversation dwells upon Mr. Sumner's deposition. To all the fact seems to be incredible that the time has come when the Republican party can afford to disgrace its most distinguished leader. The universal prediction is that the time will come when those who have sown the wind shall reap the whirlwind, and those whose heads have been raised high shall be laid low.

Jubilation over the Proceeding—The President Receives Congratulations.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., March 11, 1871.

The Sumner-Administration Imbroglio

Has now reached its third stage. The first was the contest in the caucus, &c.; second, the decision and consequent decapitation of the Massachusetts Senator in the Senate, and now comes the great public, who are discussing the moral aspect of the situation, and passing judgment thereon. The popular sympathy is almost wholly with Sumner. The Republican members of the lower House, with but few exceptions, condemn Sumner's deposition in severe terms. Although they are on the most friendly relations with the Administration, they characterize the whole thing as one of those stupid political bungles which are worse than crime, and for which there is no known remedy.

Inception of the Scheme.

This removal was originally conceived immediately after Sumner's speech on San Domingo, as was then intimated in these dispatches; but there were few Senators who then had the courage to carry out the wishes of the President and the State Department in this respect, and the project was dropped. In those days, down to the final action of the Senate yesterday, newspaper correspondents were obliged to seek officials in order to get information as to the conspiracy. To-day, the tide was turned, and newspapers and newspaper representatives are sought out voluntarily after by officials of all classes, in order that the latest news may be obtained of the effect of blows that produced upon the country.

Effect of the Removal of Sumner.

Mr. Sumner himself has been in receipt of dispatches all day from all parts of the country, tendering him sympathy and well-wishes in his present situation. He has also been waited upon in person by a large number of prominent men, both in and out of office, who assure him of their support in the war being made upon him.

"It's of No Consequence."

The President is also in a satisfied mood, and has conversed freely with visitors to-day upon this allabsorbing topic. He professes to see nothing to excite in the slightest degree in Sumner's behalf, and intimates that it bears a remarkable resemblance to the same storm which broke out when Cox was removed. He thinks that after the people have reflected upon the subject, they will indorse his action.

If Grant is Not Renominated, a Third Party will be Formed.

Prominent politicians assert that the country must elect either to make this action of the President a personal matter for which he alone should be held responsible, or else they must be willing to have the blame borne by the Republican party, with all its direful consequences. It is stated that if the impression can only be disseminated that Grant is not to be the next Presidential candidate, and such probability can be made to appear strong, the opposition to him would be kept out of sight. That any attempt to magnify into a personal question the opposition to his tack on Sumner should be studiously avoided, and that it should be held to be only one of those little things which happen once in a while, and which, while having no special significance, and, least of all, any political importance, but which will serve as a Senatorial orator, and his matter ordinarily is such that it yielded no mass for the mouth of which the bushels of chaff; but to-day he made a vigorous and earnest speech in denunciation of the whole affair, and pettifogged with all miserable zeal to show that the fact of the Senate required a change in the chairmanship of committees every two years, and that such changes had been indulged in from time to time, personal, without occasioning newspaper paragraphs. And Nye and Stewart also labored in their own peculiar manner to create the impression that the matter was a mere tempi. Nye, the buffoon of the Senate, told the same number of stories as each of which he found equally applicable in his Sutro tunnel effort, his San Domingo oration and his numerous other harangues during the winter session. With that immeasurable freshness and self-composure which seems him only in his native Nevada sage, Nye expressed his wonder that there should be any more fuss made over Sumner's removal than the making of a change in the clerkship of any of the committees. It was the boast of the Senate that it was largely governed by the committees, and that it was the height of the absurdity of any comparison very easily. When he seemed to be championing his cause and defending his act, Howe tried to shrink out of it, but did not place himself in a better light before the Senate. Mr. Howe's speech was chiefly his own differences with Sumner, and of the continuous inharmonious relations which had existed between them, were full of tender and charitable feeling, and he became very eloquent as he announced his purpose to lead the attempt to degrace him by men to whom his efforts had opened the way to office, and, after standing for an hour stoutly and faltdrivly, he closed by asking Mr. Wilson to withdraw the motion to postpone, as it was useless.

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THE PEOPLE SPEAK.

The People Condemn the Removal of Mr. Sumner.

PHILADELPHIA, March 1.—A large and enthusiastic Republican meeting was held at Camden last night, and resolutions were adopted condemning in the strongest terms the removal of Mr. Sumner from the Committee of Foreign Relations.

Mr. Sumner's Removal the Result of English Dictation

WASHINGTON, March 11.—Some important information has come to light since the action of the Senate yesterday in deposing Mr. Sumner, which settles beyond doubt, that the administration committed itself more than six weeks ago to Sir Edward Thornton, the British Minister, to bring about a change in the chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee. The circumstances which are now given to the public are made upon the authority of two prominent gentlemen holding high official positions, whose word will be received by the people of the country, but whose names I am for the present restrained from using. Nearly two months ago Sir Edward Thornton expressed to Secretary Fish doubts as to the Administration being able to get such a majority in the Senate. Commissioners might agree upon ratified by the United States Senate, so long as Senator Sumner remained at the head of the Foreign Relations Committee. He entertained such views as he expressed in set speech against the San Domingo treaty. Therefore, if the Administration saw proper to make concessions to great Britain on questions in controversy, Mr. Sumner, from his high official position, would be enabled to exert great influence over the Senate, and perhaps defeat the ratification of the treaty. It was, therefore, desirable, the British Minister urged, that some other Senator should be placed in Mr. Sumner's position on the Foreign Relations Committee. The matter was informally talked over between the Secretary of State and the British Minister, and then the subject was taken before the President. After consultation with friends of the Administration, both in and out of the Senate, the policy which the San Domingo and other matters were brought up and discussed, a plan was agreed upon, and the secret shook, was fully carried out. The British Minister was informed, as were also the Republican members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, that Mr. Sumner, with his powerful and obnoxious opponent, Mr. Sumner, would be removed from the position of honor he had held so long. Every one of them at once saw that the Administration abandoned the ground taken by him when he enunciated the doctrine of the Monroe policy, but on other Administrative acts, all of which was without a shadow of truth, Mr. Sumner having prepared he moved to be made. The movement was made, however, to create the impression that the opposition to Mr. Sumner was determined In opposing the Administration in every way, and get up the feeling that it was exercising the functions of the foreign policy of the Administration to removelim from his position of influence and power. The British Minister, and that the Administration has achieved a success at the expense of dengerating Mr. Sumner, and that the Administration come to your correspondent so well authenticated that he feels justified in making them public, even in defiance of the denials that have been made. Mr. Sumner was removed not only on account of his opposition to San Domingo, but at the request of British officials, who especially disliked Mr. Sumner for defeating them in times past in the Senate Chamber.

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He stated that Mr. Sumner's position was antagonistic to England, and nothing could be done while he maintained his position at the head of the Foreign Relations Committee. Secretary Fish laid the matter before the President, and advised the removal of Mr. Sumner. The President acquiesced, regarding the matter, in the same light as the British Minister and Mr. Fish, with the understanding that Sumner was to be removed, Thornton consented to the delay in High Commission. The commission arrived here, and Sumner was still at the head of the Foreign Relations Committee, a fact to which Thornton called the attention of Mr. Fish, stating at the same time that it was useless for the commission to proceed until Mr. Sumner was out of the way.

It is understood that this is what Mr. Morton referred to yesterday when he denied that San Domingo had anything to do with the removal of Mr. Sumner, and that there were other reasons connected with foreign affairs which made it necessary. It is now believed that Sumner's position on the Alabama claims was the main cause of his removal.

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Several Senators called upon the President this morning, when the subject was talked over. Grant is of the opinion that, when the excitement has passed over, the country will sustain the action of the Senate. He says it was necessary to make an example of Sumner in order to teach these men that they cannot assail an administration with impunity.

Senators Wilson, Trumbull, Schurz, and others who took sides with Sumner, regard a disruption of Grant's followers as certain, and that he cannot get the Republican nomination for President. It is apparent now that if matters could have been postponed until another could have been held, enough Senators would have changed their votes to prevent the removal of Sumner.

The Thornton Story Denied.

By Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, March 12.—There is authority for denying the truth of the alleged disclosures telegraphed from this city yesterday, purporting to represent the British Minister as having exercised the Secretary of State opinions averse to the retention of Sumner on the Committee on Foreign Relations. No conversation or allusion to the subject has ever passed between Sir Edward Thornton or either of the members of the Diplomatic corps and the Secretary of State. Neither of them has ever intimated to the Secretary any desire for a change in any of the committees.

A Categorical Denial from Secretary Fish.

NEW YORK, March 13.—Secretary Fish has written a letter to the *Post*, in which he says: "The entire statement of your correspondent, so far as it relates to any conversation, expression, discussion or allusion by Sir Edward Thornton to me, or by me to or with him, or with the British Commissioners, or any of them, is entirely false. I have had no intercourse or conversation with any of the Diplomatic or Consular corps on the subject of Mr. Sumner's removal from the Committee on Foreign Relations, or on any other subject connected with it. I have had no intercourse with Mr. Sumner, which settles beyond doubt, that the administration committed itself more than six weeks ago to Sir Edward Thornton, the British Minister, to bring about a change in the chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee. The circumstances which are now given to the public are made upon the authority of two prominent gentlemen holding high official positions, whose word will be received by the people of the country, but whose names I am for the present restrained from using. Nearly two months ago Sir Edward Thornton expressed to Secretary Fish doubts as to the Administration being able to get such a majority in the Senate. Commissioners might agree upon ratified by the United States Senate, so long as Senator Sumner remained at the head of the Foreign Relations Committee. He entertained such views as he expressed in set speech against the San Domingo treaty. Therefore, if the Administration saw proper to make concessions to great Britain on questions in controversy, Mr. Sumner, from his high official position, would be enabled to exert great influence over the Senate, and perhaps defeat the ratification of the treaty. It was, therefore, desirable, the British Minister urged, that some other Senator should be placed in Mr. Sumner's position on the Foreign Relations Committee. The matter was informally talked over between the Secretary of State and the British Minister, and then the subject was taken before the President. After consultation with friends of the Administration, both in and out of the Senate, the policy which the San Domingo and other matters were brought up and discussed, a plan was agreed upon, and the secret shook, was fully carried out. The British Minister was informed, as were also the Republican members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, that Mr. Sumner, with his powerful and obnoxious opponent, Mr. Sumner, would be removed from the position of honor he had held so long. Every one of them at once saw that the Administration abandoned the ground taken by him when he enunciated the doctrine of the Monroe policy, but on other Administrative acts, all of which was without a shadow of truth, Mr. Sumner having prepared he moved to be made. The movement was made, however, to create the impression that the opposition to Mr. Sumner was determined In opposing the Administration in every way, and get up the feeling that it was exercising the functions of the foreign policy of the Administration to removelim from his position of influence and power. The British Minister, and that the Administration has achieved a success at the expense of degnerating Mr. Sumner, and that the Administration come to your correspondent so well authenticated that he feels justified in making them public, even in defiance of the denials that have been made. Mr. Sumner was removed not only on account of his opposition to San Domingo, but at the request of British officials, who especially disliked Mr. Sumner for defeating them in times past in the Senate Chamber.

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WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 9, 1871.

Caucus of Republican Members.

About 40 Republican members of the House met in caucus this evening, Blair in the chair, at the instance of General Butler, who is desirous of securing the passage of a law to protect Southern Unionists. Debate at once arose as to the possibility of continuing the Electoral Commission, but subsequently the Western members were unwilling to make any agreement in regard to it. The discussion was at a very excited character, and the caucus broke up in confusion. Many members protested against the action of the few Republicans in the House, who, by uniting with the Democrats, prevented the passage of the Civil Rights bill, and cut off debate on the question under consideration. A letter from the President to Speaker Blaine was read, in which he urged an early final adjournment or expressed himself in favor of the early passage of the Civil Rights bill, and in case of profitless talk, the caucus appointed a committee of five, with Mr. Shellabarger at its head, to report to-morrow at 10 o'clock a line of action for the course of the party, and then at eleven o'clock adjourned.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 9, 1871.

THE SENATE COMMITTEES.

The Senate caucus to-day occupied nearly three hours. Stewart, Scott, Carpenter, Conkling and Howe were present from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and Fenton, with those in the negative. The list of committees as adopted to-day is as follows, and will be presented to the Senate to-morrow:

On Foreign Relations—Messrs. Cameron, Harlan, Morton, Patterson, Howe, Stewart and Casserly.

Privileges and Elections—Messrs. Sumner, Stewart, Howe, Ferry of Michigan and Norwood.

Finance—Messrs. Sherman, Morrill, of Vermont; Fenton, Scott, Ferry of Connecticut and Bayard.

Appropriations—Messrs. Cole, Sprague, Sawyer, Edmunds, Wilson and Saulsbury.

Commerce—Messrs. Chandler, Corbett, Kellogg, Spencer, Buckingham, Conkling and Wadleigh.

Manufactures—Messrs. Scofield, Robertson, Boreman, Gilbert, and a vacancy to be filled by the Democrats.

Agriculture—Messrs. Pomeroy, Anthony, Robertson, Tipton and Davis.

Military Affairs—Messrs. Wilson, Cameron, Morton, Ames, Logan, West and Blair.

Naval Affairs—Messrs. Chandler, Anthony, Nye, Osborn, Caldwell, Ferry, of Michigan, and Stockton.

Judiciary—Messrs. Trumbull, Schurz, Carpenter, Frelinghuysen, Pool and Thurman.

Post Offices and Post Roads—Messrs. Ramsey, Pomeroy, Gilbert, Cole, Flanagan, Ferry, of Michigan, and Kelly.

Patents—Messrs. Howe, Scofield, Chandler, Hamlin, Sprague, Windom, Logan and Casserly.

Private Land Claims—Messrs. Pool, of Kentucky, Chairman; Ferry, of Connecticut, Sawyer, Bayard and Blair.

Indian Affairs—Messrs. Harlan, Corbett, Buckingham, Kellogg, Spencer, Clayton, Howe, Pratt and Hamilton.

Pensions—Messrs. Edmunds, Tipton, Pratt, Brownlow, Hill, Hitchcock and Saulsbury.

Revolutionary—Messrs. Pool, Brownlow, Corbett, Pratt and a vacancy to be filled by the Democrats.

Claims—Messrs. Howe, Scott, Sprague, Pratt and Stockton.

District of Columbia—Messrs. Patterson, Sawyer, Ferry of Connecticut, Caldwell, Hamilton and Ames.

Patents—Messrs. Ferry, of Connecticut, Carpenter, Scofield, of Maine, Hamlin and Norwood.

Public Buildings and Grounds—Messrs. Morrill, of Vermont, Frelinghuysen, Ferry of Michigan, Hamilton and Pomeroy.

Territories—Messrs. Nye, Cragin, Medlary, Boreman, Hill, Hitchcock and Saulsbury.

Pacific Railroad—Messrs. Stewart, Ramsey, Wilson, Herlan, Rice, Fenton, Scott, Kellogg, Hitchcock, Blair and Bayard.

Mines and Mining—Messrs. Rice, Chandler, Flanagan, Nye, Kellogg, Caldwell, Hamilton and Gilbert.

On Revision of Laws—Messrs. Conkling, Carpenter, Howe, Pool and Thurman.

Education and Labor—Messrs. Sawyer, Morrill, of Vermont, Boreman, Robertson and Kelly.

Contingent Expenses—Messrs. Fenton, Windom and Dennis.

Printing—Messrs. Anthony, Howe and Casserly.

Enrolled Bills—Messrs. Ferry, of Michigan, and Sherman.

Engrossed Bills—Messrs. Buckingham, Ames and Davis.

Revolutionary Claims—Messrs. Pool, Brownlow and Bayard.

Political Disabilities—Messrs. Robertson, Boreman, Ames, Gilbert, Vickers and Stevenson.

Levees of the Mississippi—Messrs. Kellogg, Trumbull, Schurz and Spencer, and one vacancy.

Civil Service—Messrs. Sherman, Edmunds, Scott, Chandler, Wilson, Rice, Nye, and Bayard.

The Committee on Appropriations for the Army was discontinued. Mr. Morrill, of Maine, declined, on account of ill health, re-election as chairman of the Committee on Appropriations.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 13, 1871.

THE NEW LOAN.

The Merchants' Bank of Boston to-day subscribed $500,000 to the new loan. In response to an inquiry whether a bank may substitute their six per cent. for the new five per cent. bonds, without risk of hereafter being required to put in for a portion thereof four and four and a half per cent., it is stated by the secretary that such action on the part of banks, so far as he is concerned, will not render them liable to have any change made in the manner of subscription; but that they should remain undisturbed until the end of the ten years required for maturing the new bonds.

STEEL MANUFACTURE.

Interesting Experiments with the York County Codorus Ore.

The True *Daily Times* contains an account of a series of experiments in turning steel out of common pig iron by the addition of twenty per cent. of the York county codorus ore, which proved highly successful, and cannot fail to prove of deep interest to the iron interests of the country.

At the pig iron works a test was made by the process known as puddling, which is a new process, but the *Times* claims that it has been proved beyond a doubt that the steel puddled from codorus ore possesses an extraordinary degree of strength, resilience and equal to cast steel in firmness of grain and strength of material, qualities never before realized in the manufacture of puddled steel. The iron used was the Port Henry pig, which cost about $50 per ton, and was mixed with the codorus ore, in the proportion of twenty per cent. of the codorus ore, an excellent quality of steel was the result. This was taken to the Bessemer Works and tested, and also found to be of excellence

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, March 18, 1871.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1871.

ABOUT AND AROUND PITTSBURGH.

From the glimpse we have had of old Pittsburgh, or rather of young Pittsburgh it may seem to have been a good place to—go from. But the hardy Scotch, Irish and Germans of that day did not think so. Those who came to it and stayed in it had no reason to repent of their action. The place steadily, though not rapidly, increased. Washington's account of its size in 1770 was that it contained about twenty houses; in 1786, the number was not far from forty; ten years later it was somewhat over 100; in 1808 it had grown to 597; in 1870—a hundred years from the visit of Washington on his way to Kanawha—the population of the locality had increased from 120, exclusive of those in the Fort, to 180,000, and the houses, from twenty log cabins to 30,000 houses, such as we now see them to be.

How to get to Pittsburgh, was a question that must have received very different answers at different periods of its history. The first method was undoubtedly PADDY'S *tandem*—putting one foot before the other. Horse-back riding, and pack-horses for transportation, continued in use for many years. Wagons over the mountains came next—the wagons being steadied and checked, in going down steep, ungraded places, by means of logs chained to the hinder axle-tree and dragging on the ground. The first *stage* started for Philadelphia in 1805. Boats, of course, were used on the rivers. They were of very diversified model and style—canoe, skiff, batteau, keel-boat, barge, flat—and of sizes varying according to the purposes they were to answer. The first *steamboat*, named the *New Orleans*, built here, was launched in March, 1811—just sixty years ago. The great *canal* was completed in 1829. The railroad west was in running condition as far as New Brighton in 1851, and the Central, east, was completed soon after. All these modes of travel and transportation were in use, and each successively an improvement upon its predecessor, within the space of less than a hundred years. Our numerous railroads have now nearly superceded all the rest. The rivers still float a good number of boats, and might advantageously carry many more, if Congress, the legitimate overseers of these great natural highways of commerce, would make judicious appropriations for their maintenance and improvement.

For a considerable time before and after the beginning of the present century, Pittsburgh was a sort of rendezvous for emigrants from the east destined to the new settlements in Indiana and Southern Ohio. Many gathered here through the winter to be ready for embarkation in the spring. Many, also, from the State of New York made this an important stopping place, having taken boats at Olean, up the Allegheny, which, in the language of the times, was called the jumping-off place, because there their land travel usually ended. The first boat with emigrants from New England is mentioned in 1788. With started from Simpson's ferry—afterwards Robbstown, now West Newton—on the Youghiogheny, and continued for the Muskingum river. These boats were generally rude, open, uncomfortable conveyances, with different degrees of convenience in their appointments, according to the means and tastes of those who purchased and used them.

We now propose to take and present a brief view of matters and things *around* Pittsburgh of the olden time.

Allegheny, for its proximity and its present importance, is entitled to be first mentioned; although, in the earlier times of Pittsburgh, it was not often mentioned or referred to at all, being, with all north and west of it, still in the ownership and possession of the Indians. The Indian title was extinguished in 1784, by a treaty made at Fort Stanwix with the Six Nations. Fort Stanwix was at the present town of Rome, near Utica, in the State of New York. Four years afterwards the county of Allegheny was organized, embracing part of old Westmoreland, of Washington, and the portion of country north of the Allegheny. The Indians continued to roam over this region long after their title to it was given up. As late as 1793 occasional hostile raids were made by them into the new settlements on the Pennsylvania frontier.

The beautiful site, where the city of Allegheny now stands, was covered with a fine forest of oak, cherry and black walnut trees, when the county was organized, in 1788. In 1784, Mr. BRACKENRIDGE indulged the following timid hypothesis, in relation to the spot: "On this ground it is supposed, a town may stand." Allegheny was originally intended to be the county seat. Under the law, by which the organization was organization was authorized, the courts were to be held in Pittsburgh until the trustees named in the statute should erect county buildings on the Reserved Tract, north of the river. But *somehow*—legislative legerdemain, perhaps—Allegheny having nothing but trees to represen it, while Pittsburgh had men, the law was changed the next year, and the trustees were authorized to purchase lots and erect the buildings in Pittsburgh. The trees uttered no remonstrance and the people of Pittsburgh were well content to have their small amount of "lawing" attended to at their own doors, by their two lawyers, who then constituted the totality of the Pittsburgh bar. Before this time, Hannastown—more famous in military annals than in civil history, and better known throughout the region eighty years ago than now—was the seat of justice for the old Westmoreland county, in which Pittsburgh was included. It is a small, pleasantly situated hamlet, a few miles north of Greensburgh. Allegheny, though not yet inhabited, was laid out in an exact square, embracing one hundred lots and a munificent appointment of common ground, which is now elegantly improved in well distributed public parks.

All know what Allegheny now is—a younger sister city with Pittsburgh. In all but municipal incorporation they are one city. The continuous processions of people and vehicles passing both ways on the bridges attest their identity of interests and their closeness of social and business association. A small current of water and another of *will* alone keep them separate. United with each other and with the "South Side," they would be one grand, populous and prosperous city, taking rank among the first-class cities of the United States. Perhaps, were the Court House and county offices transferred to Allegheny, according to the original design, a unification of the separate municipalities might be effected, to the satisfaction of all.

The rivers around Pittsburgh have always been celebrated as a striking beauty of the place. And they have been appreciated, as means of great commercial prosperity. Many galleys were built on these waters, for war purposes, before the commencement of the century, and several larger vessels, soon after. The water of the Monongahela has always had the name of being turbid, while that of the Allegheny was noted for its transparent clearness. The name of the former is said to mean, in the Indian language, "muddy by the mouldering of the banks." This cannot be controverted, and therefore is as good as true, whether fact or fiction. Down to recent times, the limpid, sparkling water of the Allegheny was equal to any in the land, as the daily drink of the citizens. What the quality of that stream is now, when the current runs low, is known to all who "take it clear." Oil refineries and an extensive sewerage, pouring in their "horrible compounds," are calculated rather to increase than to improve its flavor. If the evil continues, the long contested water of the Monongahela will be preferred, on the ground that though sometimes rather roily, it is with "clean dirt."

Around Pittsburgh, in very olden times, there were, strictly speaking, no places—that is, no towns or villages that had names. Localities, on the line of emigrant travel, were designated chiefly by creeks that the road crossed, and by the names of the keepers of public houses, where accommodations for travelers were supplied. On the rivers, localities were named and distances measured from the mouths of tributary streams. As people then, whether traveling by land or water, moved somewhat more tardily along than we do in these days, they had time to notice things more particularly. By the help of such a traveler we are enabled to give some details of incidents and places around Pittsburgh that may be interesting to our readers. The date is not much above sixty years ago.

"...ersburg was not much behind Pitts...rg, being "a compact, well built, ...about 100 houses, with a ...and a Presbyterian meeting house and a market house." Politics was the subject of the evening's conversation in the sitting room of Mr. HARAGH'S tavern—Col. BEAN'S projects being the starting point.

Washington communicated with Pittsburgh by a regular line of stages. It was surrounded by good land and good citizens, as it still is. It was "a thriving town and a pleasant residence for either trader, mechanic or private man, the inhabitants being a spirited and polished people, mostly descendants of northern (Protestant) Irish." *Canonsburg* contained besides the college, 88 houses, being about half as large as Washington.

Turning our course down the Ohio, there was no place, sixty-five years ago, that could be called a *town*—even for the utmost stretch of our local usage of that term—till we got to Beaver, except *Middletown*, which consisted of "ten houses, including barns." Before the time specified—that is, in 1782, Gen. Irwin had proposed to Gen. Washington to establish a military post at the mouth of Chartier's Creek, McKee's Rocks, which he thought would be a sufficient defense against Indian raids and against any hostile approach on our settlement by the British at Detroit. Were this position taken, he thought Ft. Pitt and also Ft. McIntosh (Beaver) might safely be abandoned. Opposite Middletown was Mr. WHITE'S finely situated house—Haysville. Two miles below was a "charmingly situated farm" which belonged to Squire WAY, "The Squire was badly lodged," remarks the traveler, "if he had not a better house than the log hovel we saw on the bank." There was a place down the river that figured quite conspicuously in early history in connection with the name of WASHINGTON and with negotiations between the government and the Indians. Its locality, though not its name, is unknown. Historic disputations have been waged as to which side of the river was honored by the possession of *Logstown*. The dispute is settled, by our historic authority, who speaks of it in 1808, as being on both sides of the river. Yet, like ancient Nineveh, before the LAYARD explorations, the precise place is not known. While "Mad ANTHONY WAYNE had his troops in camp, near Logstown, 1793, one of his Captains wrote to a merchant in Pittsburgh, "Send down some whip-cord for *cats*—they have no cats to whip the men with." How was that for pleasant soldiering? *Beaver* was described, in 1784, as a beautiful plain, full of shell-bark hickory, black walnut and oak—an old Indian settlement and French trading post. In 1808, it was described as a high, stony plain, laid out for a town seven years before, and containing "thirty indifferent houses, much scattered on three parallel streets. One public house was kept by General LACOCK and another by Mr. HEMPHILL. On the "bottom" at the moth of Big Beaver—Bridge Water—there were two houses, both taverns.

We belive we have now given a view of all old Pittsburgh and around, as far as the history has come to our knowledge. People can note the changes for themselves. Here we close.

THE result of the New Hampshire Election is full of instruction, which if heeded will be worth as much as it has cost. When the people of a sovereign State speak out, what they say is entitled to respect, and the man clothed with power who has not learned the full measure of the significance of such utterances, becomes at once the object of pity and dread; for this is a government by the popular will, which only the mind that is grossly ignorant or essentially despotic will disregard. The majority for Gen. GRANT in New Hampshire was rising seven thousand.

At the election on Tuesday, however, they were beaten. It would probably be enough to say that up to the time the Republicans in the Senate, at the instigation of the President, as it is believed, degraded Mr. SUMNER, a Republican victory and an indorsement of the administration was confidently expected. Without any doubt the result can be viewed in no other light than as a deliberate verdict adverse to the SUMNER proceeding, and a sharp rebuke of those engaged in it. The next question is, will it be understood and the admonition heeded? The voice of New Hampshire cannot be coughed down, nor her utterances set aside, as it is attempted to set aside the utterances of the almost united voice of the Republican press. Let any other State speak to-morrow and it would be in the New Hampshire key. Let not General GRANT, let not those Senators who have done this thing, for an instant suppose the fact to be otherwise. Vicksburg was bombarded and made to surrender; but public opinion can never be. Caucus may record its decree, and Senators may submit to it, but the people will speak out. If this shall come to be understood and wisely heeded, then the result in New Hampshire will be valuable to the Republican party; otherwise,—let the reader make his own comment.

IT there is evidence that is capable of being placed tangibly before the public to the effect that English influence was at the bottom of SUMNER'S removal, or at any stage of the proceeding had anything to do with it, it ought not to be withheld. It is evident that not a few believe that such is the fact. It is asserted that the removal was foretold on information obtained prior to the fact, to the effect that the English Government or persons high in its confidence desired Mr. SUMNER'S displacement, and that therefore it would take place. The country will be slow to yield full conviction without further testimony, the case at present being one of suspicion merely, a suspicion which, if it can be, should be dispelled. For surely nothing could be less desirable in this connection than a groundless suspicion of this sort, except it be full belief on adequate testimony. That Mr. FISH'S card does not satisfy the public mind is quite evident from the comments which it has elicited from the press and individuals supposed to possess information justifying something more than suspicion.

IT is understood that the new Democratic paper which was started here less than three months ago with the title of "*The Paper.*" is dead from impecuniosity. For some days past rumor has represented it as being in the agonies of death, the extreme fate being postponed by shifts from day to day which only rendered its demise all the more certain. Report says that considerable sums have been lost in the attempts to accomplish what practical men saw from the first was an impossibility. Those who undertook it have had a brief and instructive period of schooling which should not be lost on those who may be similarly tempted.

"WHERE MCGREGOR sits is the head of the table," is the declaration of the Democratic Senators. And if Mr. SUMNER had been great enough to say to his fellow Senators: 'Put me on any committee, or on none, as you judge most conducive to the public good—at the foot of the Committee on Enrolled Bills, if you think best, and an humbler station was asked for to restrain the bankers from parting with this sum long enough to be counted,' it was alleged that $600,000 of this amount had been sent over to New York, where the contract was to be carried out, and from whence the money was to be shipped. This statement was denied, and an injunction for the full sum was granted.

Much of the European travel from this country at present is composed of Germans, who are going home, now that the war is over, to visit the Fatherland. The Bremen sailed on the 4th with 1,200 Bremen, had about one hundred in the cabin, nearly all of them of that nationality. The City of Antwerp, for Liverpool, likewise had many of the same class, and the steamers to leave next week have few besides Teutonic names on their books thus far.

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A Baltimore Romance.

In Seville, which is popularly believed to be in Spain, there is in use a most felicitous invention in the way of making love—clandestinely. After dark young caballeros steal beneath their lady's lattice—which, perchance, is in the third story—and softly unscrewing the handle of their walking sticks, proceed to extract from the same (which are hollow) length after length of hollow tubing, screwing them together after the manner of a Japanese fishing pole or the old apparatus wherewith sweeps clean chimneys. A mouth-piece is fitted into each end and one raised to the window above. Soon, by the means of this improvised speaking tube, two souls with a certain unanimity of thought and two hearts with a possible unison of pulsation are softly communing.

Now this is all very nice, seductively romantic, and all that sort of thing, but what that thickwooded age of it brought to a certain youth of Baltimore. He had read or heard of it, and happening to have a surreptitious affection for a young and wealthy lady, which she as surreptitiously reciprocated, he determined with her connivance to avail himself of it. He got a tin pipe of the desired length made by a tinner, and in each end of it placed, for want of better mouth-pieces, a funnel. Delicious conversation went on, he sitting on the top of a water barrel, and she leaning from her window above. They would converse for hours, and exchange all the soft nonsense in the world, and then he would unship his apparatus, put the funnels in his pocket, wrap the pieces up in a newspaper, and go home in a condition of etherial bliss. But the course of true love never did run smooth, and one evening the old gentleman, smoking in the back garden at an unusual hour, saw the young gentleman arrive, fix up his apparatus, and commence his soul-communing operations.

He made up his mind in a minute. He went into the kitchen and filled a pitcher full of boiling water; it was handed to him, and off he posted up stairs. Just as he reached his daughter's door he commenced calling to her, &c., telling her lover to wait a moment, she came to the door. "Here, my dear," he said, "I've come to get me my spectacles; I'll wait here till you come down." She disappeared up stairs and he stole cautiously to the head of the funnel. Announcing the fact of the mystery that has puzzled people how so many new journalistic enterprises could be set on foot in this city during a single year with any hope of success.

The "*Times* names the *Daily Transcript* as one of the new enterprises, and in connection with the "New York Printing Company," which is part and parcel of the concern, "it annually fishes half a million dollars from our tax payers for useless printing and advertising." Other journals are also asked to

It is, however, the quasi-respectable journals that do the mischief, and it is their treachery which tends to inflict an irreparable injury upon the journalistic profession. When journals that have, or have had, a character to sustain, and are supposed to rest on a footing of legitimate business principles, are seen hungrily knawing at the Tammany crib, while they indite praises of notorious official rascality, the public confidence is destroyed, and the only conservative power for the protection of the people, loses its influence, and the entire profession of journalism is brought into disrepute.

Tom Scott as a Rising Power.

"The election of Thomas A. Scott of Pennsylvania to the office of President of the Union Pacific Railroad is an event of far-reaching significance. Mr. Scott is becoming a very important man in a political sense. He has the reputation of being the most decisive influence over the next Presidential election. He regulates the course of legislation in that State. Only a few days ago the newspapers said that when the House of Representatives rose and said that 'if Tom Scott had no further business with the Legislature, they would like to adjourn.'

"Mr. Scott also controls the Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne Railroad, connecting Pittsburgh and Chicago, and has great power in Ohio and Indiana. He has his hand on the great Northwestern line, which unites Chicago and Omaha, and forms with his other road an unbroken connection between the Atlantic and Pacific. He further holds under his thumb the Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central, and can control both the Ohio and Mississippi Central and Illinois, and extend his operations to St. Louis and Missouri. Here in the East, too, he has the Texas Pacific Railroad in his pocket, and is beginning for the important line formed by the Cumberland Valley and Northern Central Railroads, connecting New York and Philadelphia. It is also said that he is likely soon to acquire the newly chartered Southern Pacific."

The *Sun* concludes by remarking that "it is difficult to fix the limits of the part which Thomas A. Scott may play in selecting the next occupant of the White House."

ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILROAD.

Election of Officers—Prospects of the Road.

The Board of Directors of the Allegheny Railroad Company at their last meeting elected the following officers for the ensuing year, viz: Col. W. Phillips, President; Jno. Ballantine, Controller; Capt. W. A. Tomlinson, Secretary and Treasurer; Col. J. J. Lawrence, General Superintendent; Thos. M. King, Assistant Superintendent; Capt. H. Haupt, Chief Engineer; L. H. Jackson, Resident Engineer.

Mr. Ballantine, declining re-election for the positions of Secretary and Treasurer, which he has filled with signal ability and faithfulness, was, in acknowledgement of his past services, elected controller.

Capt. Tomlinson is of agreeable manners and excellent business qualifications. His selection for Treasurer and Secretary is one every way acceptable.

Fred. E. Volz, formerly Revenue Collector for the 22d District, has taken a partnership of three months, and then are required to make eight yards a day. For with a lasting work in the cause of temperance, and make a good living for himself and family.

"Freedom of the Press."

The New York *Times* utters these plain words concerning the press of that city:

It is well known that not one-third of the journals that go to make up the daily press of this city could exist a month if it were not for the patronage they map known as "corporation advertising" which is doled out to them by the "ring," and charged to the account of the tax-payers who never see the advertisements they pay for, and would be ashamed to be caught reading the sheets in which they are published. The same is true to a very large extent of the weekly press. It is not an uncommon thing for members of the ring to start a new daily or weekly paper solely for the purpose of making a few extra thousands out of the advertising. It is the knowledge of the mystery that has puzzled people how so many new journalistic enterprises could be set on foot in this city during a single year with any hope of success.

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"Speaking of Sumner and other politicians of the same class, the New York *Express* says "It is a disgrace to America to call such men statesmen." It is a disgrace, though, which liberal America has ever sought to inflict."—*Louisville Courier-Journal.*

Since the rupture between Sumner and Grant the *Courier-Journal* has failed to improve its former without stint. We do not care to conceal our opinion that Senator Sumner has been unjustly treated, but what does our contemporary think of its own eulogistic "authorities?" "Only idiots, dear Dogberry, without his aid? Well, we always thought you had a grain of honesty in your composition, and that when you had got through abusing other people you would begin to tell the truth about yourself.

AN American who remained in Paris the siege through, saw and participated in all the stirring events, and therefore had ample opportunity for judging, expresses himself concerning the French people as follows: "One would think after the lesson the Parisians have received they would be behave a little better; but they do not. The shopkeepers are more insolent and unbearable than ever; every one remarks it. The French have been pretty thoroughly unmasked during the last few months. In the first place, as nation they have proved no courage and of patriotism; and as to display in their armies, it did not exist. They have proved themselves wanting in intellectual superiority, in addition to these defects they owe the disgrace of their country."

THE demise of "*The Paper*" at so early a stage in its career ought not, perhaps, to be a matter of surprise. We always thought it was too precocious a fire out the ordinary term allotted to mediocre lives. It is very seldom that infantile prodigies grow up to maturity. Over the grave of one of these sucking Solomons, who gave up the ghost prematurely, is a tombstone bearing the inscription:

"If so early I am done for,
I wonder what I was begun for."

We beg leave to offer it as a ready-made epitaph over "*The Paper.*"

THE English newspapers report proceedings in equity brought against Gambetta, a member of the French Government, to enforce payment under a contract for the supply of seven battalions of guns, which contract, now the war is over, Gambetta seeks to repudiate. As security Gambetta deposited $1,200,000 with a banking firm, and an injunction was asked for to restrain the bankers from parting with this sum long enough to be counted. It was alleged that $600,000 of this amount had been sent over to New York, where the contract was to be carried out, and from whence the guns were to be shipped. This statement was denied, and an injunction for the full sum was granted.

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Inequality in Assessment.

The following table is valuable in the way of directing attention to the difference in the usage of different States in assessing property for taxation, and furnishes an argument in favor of a uniform assessment equal in all instances to the exact value as it would be given by sworn appraisers. The last column was not calculated at the Census Office, and the basis of those thousands were excluded in the division:

TOTAL ASSESSED VALUE OF REAL AND PERSONAL ESTATE, 1870.

Division:	Assessed value.	Popula-tion.	Average ass't per cap. capita.
Delaware	$4,787,323	125,015	317
Florida	31,167,464	187,751	165
Georgia	302,652,357	1,195,077	167
Minnesota	74,645,708	439,658	201
Indiana	663,455,044	1,673,941	391
Iowa	398,490,152	1,191,792	358
Kentucky	621,776,099	1,321,001	372
Louisiana	250,588,510	726,927	345
Maine	302,990,619	626,934	324
Massachusetts	1,341,169,403	1,457,351	920
Minnesota	84,180,000	435,511	193
Mississippi	154,635,527	834,170	185
Missouri	528,788,032	1,717,958	307
New Hampshire	178,468,539	318,300	492
New Jersey	624,868,971	905,794	690
North Carolina	332,046,391	1,071,137	310
Ohio	1,512,437,586	2,662,333	568
Oregon	31,798,510	90,922	353
Pennsylvania	1,654,719,305	3,519,955	464
Rhode Island	218,880,492	217,356	985
Virginia	356,244,925	1,224,947	291
West Virginia	124,555,442	442,022	281
Wisconsin	323,447,568	1,055,167	316
Territories.			
Arizona	1,585,295	9,658	142
Colorado	17,022,686	39,705	435
Columbia	74,971,693	131,706	567
Dakota	2,514,629	14,181	201
Idaho	5,292,145	14,998	378
Montana	12,331,208	20,595	616
New Mexico	17,784,014	91,859	195
Utah	13,109,930	86,786	152
Washington	10,187,816	23,961	443
Wyoming	8,516,748	9,118	613

THE LOCAL OPTION BILL.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Allow me, if you please, to express through the columns of your valuable paper, the unspoken, but heartfelt thanks of thousands of your readers, to those of the Legislature who have been using their influence toward, and working for the introduction of such laws as are calculated to aid the great temperence reform movement, now agitating the public mind. To Mr. White, especially would we acknowledge a debt of gratitude, for his manly course in put forth toward the successful passage of the option bill, in the House. To the fifty others who assisted him, by voice and ballot, we would say, that while we have no claims to the medal of honor, we feel that a manifestation of your interest in the public good, is grateful remembrance.

Now this bill, as it now lies before the Senate, some have been uncharitable enough to think that it will be a hopeless task to pass successfully the gauntlet of a Democratic majority.

While my views in politics are "radical," I have too high an appreciation of the honesty of many Democratic party in the Senate to think that they will allow party prejudice to overrule their action in question in which the interests of so many are involved. Their homes and firesides, as well as those of their unfortunate neighbors, will be benefited by their action in their interest in the passage of an act so vital to their eternal peace and happiness.

In behalf of humanity, I would ask of you to turn a deaf ear to the promptings of party difference—and, if you will, to aid me in the work of the passage of the "Local Option bill," and thereby do a lasting work in the cause of temperance, and make a people bless you for our minds a curse that threatens to engulf the nation.

PENNA.

"Freedom of the Press."

The New York *Times* utters these plain words concerning the press of that city:

It is well known that not one-third of the journals that go to make up the daily press of this city could exist a month if it were not for the patronage they map known as "corporation advertising" which is doled out to them by the "ring," and charged to the account of the tax-payers who never see the advertisements they pay for, and would be ashamed to be caught reading the sheets in which they are published. The same is true to a very large extent of the weekly press. It is not an uncommon thing for members of the ring to start a new daily or weekly paper solely for the purpose of making a few extra thousands out of the advertising. It is the knowledge of the mystery that has puzzled people how so many new journalistic enterprises could be set on foot in this city during a single year with any hope of success.

The *Times* names the *Daily Transcript* as one of the new enterprises, and in connection with the "New York Printing Company," which is part and parcel of the concern, "it annually fishes half a million dollars from our tax payers for useless printing and advertising." Other journals are also asked to

It is, however, the quasi-respectable journals that do the mischief, and it is their treachery which tends to inflict an irreparable injury upon the journalistic profession. When journals that have, or have had, a character to sustain, and are supposed to rest on a footing of legitimate business principles, are seen hungrily knawing at the Tammany crib, while they indite praises of notorious official rascality, the public confidence is destroyed, and the only conservative power for the protection of the people, loses its influence, and the entire profession of journalism is brought into disrepute.

Tom Scott as a Rising Power.

"The election of Thomas A. Scott of Pennsylvania to the office of President of the Union Pacific Railroad is an event of far-reaching significance. Mr. Scott is becoming a very important man in a political sense. He has the reputation of being the most decisive influence over the next Presidential election. He regulates the course of legislation in that State. Only a few days ago the newspapers said that when the House of Representatives rose and said that 'if Tom Scott had no further business with the Legislature, they would like to adjourn.'

"Mr. Scott also controls the Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne Railroad, connecting Pittsburgh and Chicago, and has great power in Ohio and Indiana. He has his hand on the great Northwestern line, which unites Chicago and Omaha, and forms with his other road an unbroken connection between the Atlantic and Pacific. He likewise holds under his thumb the Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central, and can control both the Ohio and Mississippi Central and Illinois, and extend his operations to St. Louis and Missouri. Here in the East, too, he has the Texas Pacific Railroad in his pocket, and is beginning for the important line formed by the Cumberland Valley and Northern Central Railroads, connecting New York and Philadelphia. It is also said that he is likely soon to acquire the newly chartered Southern Pacific."

The *Sun* concludes by remarking that "it is difficult to fix the limits of the part which Thomas A. Scott may play in selecting the next occupant of the White House."

ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILROAR.

Election of Officers—Prospects of the Road.

The Board of Directors of the Allegheny Railroad Company at their last meeting elected the following officers for the ensuing year, viz: Col. W. Phillips, President; Jno. Ballantine, Controller; Capt. W. A. Tomlinson, Secretary and Treasurer; Col. J. J. Lawrence, General Superintendent; Thos. M. King, Assistant Superintendent; Capt. H. Haupt, Chief Engineer; L. H. Jackson, Resident Engineer.

Mr. Ballantine, declining re-election for the positions of Secretary and Treasurer, which he has filled with signal ability and faithfulness, was, in acknowledgement of his past services, elected controller.

Capt. Tomlinson is of agreeable manners and excellent business qualifications. His selection for Treasurer and Secretary is one every way acceptable.

Fred. E. Volz, formerly Revenue Collector for the 22d District, has taken a partnership of three months, and then are required to make eight yards a day. For with a lasting work in the cause of temperance, and make a good living for himself and family.

With such a capable corps of officers, under the leadership of one of the best railroad managers in the country, the Valley Road enters on what promises to be a series of unexampled prosperity in its history.

The Protest Against Mr. Cameron.

One solitary Pittsburgh newspaper among all that have come to our notice has the meanness of Mr. Sumner, ventures to approve the appointment of Simon Cameron to the place left vacant by the Massachusetts Senator. The town map of the civil division of sentiment as to the matter was the very reason for the removal of Mr. Sumner from the Chair of the Foreign Committee, but with the solitary exception we have noted, the press everywhere, Republican and Independent, has protested that Cameron was about the worst man that could have been thought of for the place. His unworthiness is the more marked when it is borne in mind that there were such men as Morton, Schurz and Sherman, who might have been called to the place. The scat of a man like Charles Sumner can never be filled by such a one as Cameron. Neither the country nor the party can possibly have such a conscience and an intellect as his elevated to such a place. It is not for great reformers whose mental resources to have so small a man in so large a position. He has neither the honesty nor the ability to fairly represent the country in the Alabama case or in any important foreign complication. His appointment is a mistake—one to be rectified by the Washington people by every means in the land, and while no one will question the right of the Senate to control its own organization, it would be well to accept this unanimous protest against Mr. Cameron, and assign him to a place, if it has one, which he is competent to fill.—*Cleveland Leader.*

A Curious Bit of American History.

The most memorable thing in connection with the history of Mecklenburg county, North Carolina, is the "Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence," which was adopted May 20, 1775, in an old, round log court-house, clapboard-covered, school house, used as a court room, amid most enthusiastic shouts. Although the county was then a province of Great Britain, and regulates the course of legislation in that State. only a few months thereafter the members of the House of Representatives rose and said that 'if Tom Scott had no further business with the Legislature, they would like to adjourn.'

"Mr. Scott also controls the Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne Railroad, connecting Pittsburgh and Chicago, and has great power in Ohio and Indiana. He has his hand on the great Northwestern line, which unites Chicago and Omaha, and forms with his other road an unbroken connection between the Atlantic and Pacific. He likewise holds under his thumb the Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central, and can control both the Ohio and Mississippi Central and Illinois, and extend his operations to St. Louis and Missouri. Here in the East, too, he has the Texas Pacific Railroad in his pocket, and is beginning for the important line formed by the Cumberland Valley and Northern Central Railroads, connecting New York and Philadelphia. It is also said that he is likely soon to acquire the newly chartered Southern Pacific."

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STATE NEWS.

A six inch vein of mineral paint, pronounced by chemists to be the best they ever examined was discovered last June on a hillside at Pulaski, Lawrence county. A company has been formed, and it will soon be ground and put up in packages of large quantities. It is very durable, containing twenty-eight per cent.

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, March 18, 1871.

HARRISBURG.

Proceedings of the Legislature.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., March 9, 1871.

SENATE.

Bills Introduced and Passed.

Mr. Connell introduced a bill authorizing savings institutions and trust companies to purchase the bonds of the American Steamship Company. Passed.

Mr. Kinkan called up his bill authorizing courts to incorporate mutual fire insurance companies with not less than one thousand dollars capital, as required by general law. Passed.

The Printing Bill.

The public printing bill was made the special order for Thursday afternoon.

Passed Finally.

The bill conferring additional powers on the Pittsburgh Bridge Company was passed, and sent to the Governor for his approval.

Mr. Kinkan called up his bill extending to Washington county the act for the enlargement of cemeteries. Passed.

Mr. Buckalew called up the bill just messaged from the House, for the extension of the Pittsburgh Water Works, which passed and went to the Governor for approval. Adjourned till Tuesday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Bill Regulating Coal Shipments.

Mr. Wheeler's bill regulating coal shipments passed second reading, and was discharged on final passage till adjournment. It fixes railroad and canal rates per ton per mile of twenty-eight feet canal at fifteen mills, and for more than twenty-eight feet grade eighteen mills, compelling companies to transport all coal offered for shipment to market, subject to suits for damages.

Bills Passed.

In the afternoon Mr. Kerr's bill for the extension of the Pittsburgh Water Works passed.

Mr. White's Treasury bill, authorizing bids for deposits, passed by 69 to 30, and went to the Senate.

Mr. Rosh called up his bill to authorize the third Baugh Fire Marshal to appoint an assistant. Passed.

The Miners and Corporations—A Test Vote.

The first test vote in the Legislature on the contest between the miners and the railroad corporations was taken yesterday afternoon in the Senate. The immediate question was whether the general law governing miners and lives of miners in the anthracite region should be extended to the western bituminous coal fields. The bill passed to the third reading just as the miners wanted it, all amendments being defeated. The result is hailed as a great victory over the transportation companies. The House is all probability will concur.

Last evening the leading managers of the coal railroads appeared before the Judiciary Committee of the Senate and testified concerning the strikes. They are to be followed by President Siney, of the Workingmens' Benevolent Association, and other representatives of the laboring men.

It is evident that the tide has set strongly against the railroads. Whispers are afoot that high authorities have determined to break up the exorbitant rates of freight, even if it becomes necessary to seize and operate the roads. This was done in 1858, in the case of the Lake Shore road for violating its charter.

Wm. Kendricks, President of the Anthracite Board of Trade, and a large delegation of miners are here. Reports just received show that the troubles are increasing. The large iron furnace at Danville, and in the neighborhood of Steelboats, are on the point of stopping, and within forty-eight hours five thousand men will be out of employment.

If the Governor takes decided grounds in favor of the mine he will undoubtedly be sustained by the State to compel the corporations to reduce their rates. Well informed persons assert that he will, if necessary, resort to martial law, and test the case in judicial process. Various rumors are afloat, among others that six thousand workmen intend visiting the State Capital.

The Tammany Commissions.

The following grants of power are found in the bill creating a Board of Public Works for Philadelphia, now pending in the Legislature:

SEC. 3. Said board shall make *requisition* on the Councils of the City of Philadelphia, on or before the first day of December in *every year* HEREAFTER for *the amount of money required* BY THEM for the purposes" of the Board of Public Works, *and said Councils* shall, within thirty days thereafter, pass an *ordinance* LEVEYING A TAX sufficient to raise the amount so REQUIRED!

HARRISBURG, PA., March 15, 1871.

SENATE.

Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad.

A bill from the House, incorporating the Pennsylvania and West Virginia Railroad Company, from Greensburg via Uniontown, to West Virginia, was read third time by Mr. MITCHELMAN and passed finally, with the corporate name changed to Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Bituminous Coal Bill.

After discussion, was referred back to the committee, with instructions to report satisfactory amendments, the discussion of the Senate to-day being decidedly against the bill.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Opposition to Coolies.

Mr. Thompson called up his resolution urging Congress to pass laws preventing the importation of coolies. Passed.

Democratic Sympathy with Mr. Sumner.

Mr. Skinner, Democrat, offered a resolution halfway with satisfaction the Democratic triumph in New Hampshire, as complementary of the San Domingo project, and of the arbitrary and centralizing acts of the administration, culminating in the removal of Sumner from the chairmanship of one of the most important committees of Congress.

Mr. Strang, Republican, proposed to amend by adding "Hon. Charles Sumner, who has for many years distinguished himself by his opposition to Democracy and to its baneful associate slavery."

A partizan discussion followed till adjournment.

In the afternoon one bill was occupied with the bill repealing the act prohibiting the sale of intoxicating drinks in Blairsville and Burrel township, Indiana county, or within three miles thereof. Mr. Sloan, of Indiana, seeing a disposition to defeat the bill, moved its reference back to the Committee, which led to discussion, during which the motion was carried.

The Philadelphia Commissions.

The next two hours were occupied on the Philadelphia Commission bills. Reports from Committees being in order, Mr. Lamberton reported from the Municipal Corporations the Philadelphia Police Commission bill with a negative recommendation, but not adversely. The same report was also made, Mr. Johnson, Chairman of Municipal Corporations, submitted a communication in writing that the Committee had failed to report with negative recommendation all the Philadelphia Commission bills, four in number. But the bills were in the hands of friends of the measure, who refused to give them up.

An excited discussion followed on the question of receiving this communication, Josephs and others opposing it, and violent contradictory language was used by members of the committee, until finally the paper was withdrawn, with the understanding that the bills would be reported unfavorably, whereupon Mr. Duffy reported the water commission, Mr. Mooney the public works commission, and Mr. McGowan the bill regulating the Philadelphia police, all with negative recommendations.

GRANT VS. SUMNER.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 14, 1871.

What Secretary Fish Did Not Deny.

The result of Secretary Fish's report to the connection between the displacement of Senator Sumner and the new negotiations with England, published in the New York papers, makes a specific denial of certain allegations. But the error of that paper's correspondent was as much in his way of putting the case as in the facts in themselves. The Secretary of State is doubtless perfectly right in his assertion that the English minister, or nor any other foreign official proposed that Senator Sumner should be displaced, and also in the probest against the insinuation that he himself would engage in any such intrigue with foreigners. But he does not deny, and probably will not, that questions in dispute between the two countries were early aware that an effort would be made to remove that Senator from the position he then held. It is also known that the plot was so well organized beforehand that at Senator Chandler's party, last Monday week, people were informed the removal was an event certain to happen.

First Effects of Sumner's Removal.

Returns from New Hampshire elections are being eagerly sought for here to-night by politicians of both parties. Returns thus far have had a discouraging effect upon the Republicans, and the Democrats are correspondingly elated—and logically elated. Leading Republicans here do not hesitate to assert that if the party has been defeated in New Hampshire such defeat is owing solely to the $ to war made upon Sumner.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial

ST. PAUL, March 13.—The Northern Pacific Railroad bridge across the Mississippi river at Brainerd, Minnesota, was finished to-day, and the first passenger train, containing the officers of the road, passed the structure. This completes the track of the Northern Pacific one hundred and thirty miles west from Lake Superior. The grade is finished nearly to Red river, one hundred and fifty miles further, and at the present rapid rate of progress trains will run to Red river before September next. The utmost energy marks the work of construction. A large force of men is employed, and a large amount of iron is on hand with which to complete the track to the border of Dakota. Already the most active movement of settlers to the excellent farm lands now being opened up by the Northern Pacific Road through Western Minnesota.

OPERATIONS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY LAST YEAR.

The operations of the great Pennsylvania Railroad for the year 1870, as reported at the recent annual meeting of the company in Philadelphia, are remarkable in magnitude and exceedingly interesting in details. The following statement upon the gross business of the year included the sum of $7,166,892 as loss upon the first advances to meet the floating debt of the Columbia, Chester and Philadelphia Central leased Road, and upon the operations of the lease that road, under settlement with the lessees. The general movement was as follows:

	Receipts.	Expenses.
Penn. R. and branches..$17,301,782 82		$11,206,065 15
Pitts., Ft. W. & C. R....	8,118,566 69	7,052,011 95
Erie & Pitts. R. R....	870,859 23	643,281 78
Phil. & Erie R....	3,145,044 31	2,114,044 31
C., C. & I. C. R. Co., lease....		1,166,392 94
Total....	$29,662,266 26	$22,265,317 51
Net profits on central operations of Company....		$6,396,883 85

The separate reports of business are as follows:

MAIN LINE.

Earnings.

	Last week.	This week.	Total.
Flour, bbls....	5,429	2,936	6,169
Apples, bbls....	1,413	1,882	3,295
Cheese, boxes....	1,283	706	1,989
Oats, sacks....	5,063	2,971	8,034
Wheat, sacks....	1,668	1,878	3,551
Barley, sacks....	1,222	1,259	2,481
Rye, sacks....	1,288	1,508	2,796
Oats, sacks....	8,435	5,918	10,459
Butter, packages....	1,276	700	1,976
Bulk meats, pieces....	7,616	7,084	14,700
Bacon, tierces....	157	483	640
Total....	31,561,766 82	$329,391 50	$1,891,158 32
Total for 1869....	17,250,811 75	129,426 41	
Decrease in freights....			
Total....	$ 280,995 09	$250,898 09	

Expenses.

Transportation....	$1,502,984 60
Motive power....	3,240,605 69
Maintenance of cars....	1,136,945 17
Maintenance of roads....	3,056,267 78
General expenses....	211,762 82
Total....	$11,260,085 15
Net earnings for 1870....	$6,271,021 67

FORT WAYNE LEASE.

Earnings during 1870....	$3,118,595 69
Operating expenses....	1,871,987 53
Balance....	$3,746,608 07
Annual rent, with interest on the bonds of company maintaining organization, annual contribution to sinking fund, &c....	2,650,024 42
Surplus of lease....	$1,096,583 65

ERIE AND PITTSBURGH LEASE.

Earnings from March 1 to December 31—ten months....	$1,966,583 65
—operated under the general management of Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad.)	$870,859 23
Expenses....	283,425 76
Balance....	$587,433 47
Interest on bonds of Company, expenses of organization, &c....	228,876 09—$228,876 47
Profit on leases of these two roads....	$1,225,160 12

PHILADELPHIA AND ERIE LEASE.

Passengers....	$ 605,328 23
Freight....	2,459,154 52
Express....	33,111 96
Mails....	26,000 00
Miscellaneous....	20,239 96
Total (nearly $11,000 per mile of road)....	$3,144,044 71

Operating expenses:

Transportation....	$ 712,199 28
Motive power....	756,999 66
Maintenance of cars....	209,710 29
Maintenance of way....	867,912 25
Total....	$2,577,728 43
Balance to credit Phila. and Erie R. R.	$ 566,316 29

FINANCE AND TRADE

WEDNESDAY EVENING, March 15, 1871.

The local money market is very active, and the banks generally have as much as their discount lines will admit in accommodating customer paper. There seems to be a pretty easy condition existing with private bankers, yet they are unwilling to let out money on long paper, except accompanied with some substantial collateral. Short collateral loans on Government bonds could be made at quite low rates, and many of the bankers would be glad to operate in that way.

Government bonds are strong, except the currency sixes, which are weak. We hear, on high authority, says the New York *Post*, that the new loans will be advertised for the first time to-morrow in Frankfort, the Messrs. Rothschild and Seligman being the agents.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morning	Noon.	Clos'g.
U. S. Bonds of 1881....	115½	115½	115½
U. S. Bonds of 1862....	112½	112½	112½
U. S. Bonds of 1864....	112	111½	111¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865....	112	111½	112
U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new)....	110½	110½	110¾
U. S. Bonds of 1867....	110½	110½	110½
U. S. Bonds of 1868....	111	111	111
10-40s....	108½	108½	108½
Gold....	111¾	111¾	111¾

James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold....	111¾
United States 6s of 1881....	115½
United States 5-20s of 1862....	112½
United States 5-20s of 1864....	111½
United States 5-20s of 1865....	112
United States 5-20s of 1865, new....	110½
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865....	110½
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867....	110½
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868....	111
Union Pacific Railroad....	83
Central Pacific Railroad....	95½
Currency Pacifics....	109½

—A Paris financial journal says: "The total circulation of notes of the Bank of France last September was 1,774,000,000 francs, and now it is 2,060,000,000. Notwithstanding the loans made to the Government, the credit of the bank has not suffered. Its shares are even where accepted at par." It is creditable to the judgment of the authorities of France that, in managing the war finances, no resort has been taken to the indiscriminate issues of paper money, French men have not forgotten the history of their assignats; nor do they appear to have considered our own expedient of "greenbacks" as the best method of raising the means for prosecuting hostilities. It is true that, at the opening of the war, the Bank of France adopted some partial restrictions on the payment of specie against its notes; but so long as the government abstained from making legal tender issues on its own account, there was a general confidence that the bank would soon resume regular payments. As the result of this prudent policy, the French have not to reckon among the difficulties of peace the thousand derangements to industry and finance inseparable from a depreciated paper currency. How serious these obstacles remain in the recovery of confidence, not only in the national finances but also in the commerce of the country, has been painfully demonstrated in our own experience during the last nine years.

—The New York railway share list is much the same as described by the *Post* a week ago, except a slight decline in prices. The course of prices at the Stock Exchange followed the line of a curve, sharply rising at the beginning of business; then descending during the boards, rising again sudden-ly in the afternoon, and bending sharply downward again at the close of business on the day. Erie, Lake and Mississippi was perhaps the most active feature of the day, and also the most unsettled, opening at 48, falling to 47½, settled gradually down to 47¾, jumped to 49¾, and fell off finally in the vicinity of 48¾. The Western Union was feverish and fluctuated between 58¾ and 54¾. A fresh "bull" movement in Union Pacific appears to be on the cards now that the company have the signature of Secretary Boutwell over a virtual promise, conveyed in the shape of a message to the financial agents in this city, that he will not demand payment of the interest, as was intimated he would in face of the suspicion, perhaps not the letter, of the recent law passed by Congress. The Government also has commenced paying fifty per cent. in cash of transportation. Harlem and Erie presented an interesting contrast, the former going up to 137 and the latter declining to 20. The week's total railway earnings for the first week in March show an increase of $923 in Michigan Central, and an increase of $6,431 in Marietta and Cincinnati. Union Pacific for the month of February show a decrease of $194,570, and Central Pacific an increase of $86,969. The sudden decline in prices at the close was attributed to a further reduction in sterling exchange, owing to the rivalry of the trunk lines, rates being lowered 33⅓ per cent. from those just prevailing.

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March 15, 1871.	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	3:30	4:30
	A.M.	A.M.	M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
C. & H....	97½	98	98½	98½	98½	98
Erie....	90½	90¾	91	90¾	91	90¾
Reading....	101¾	101¾	102	101¾	101¾	101¾
Harlem....	137	136	136	136	136	136
Mich. Cent....						
Lake Shore....						
Illinois Cent....		134		134		
Chesa. & Pitts....	124	124½	124½	124½		125
C. & N. W....	79½	79½	79½	79½	79½	79½
do. pref....	86	86	86	86	86	86
Rock Island....	111½	111½	111½	111½	111½	111½
R. Pard....	103	103	103	103	103	103
do. pref....	76	76	77	77	77	77
Ft. W. & Chicago....	96	96	96	96	96	96
Ohio & Miss....	48¾	48¾	49¾	49¾	48¾	48¾
Ohio & Alton....	116	116	116	116		
do. pref....						
R. I. & Erie....	19	19	19	19		
do. pref....	106	106	106	106		
Canton....	56½	56½	56½	56½		
C. C. C. & I....	99	99	99	99		
Quicksilver....	42	42	42	42	42	42
Pacific Mail....	69	69	69	69		
Adams Ex....	43	43	43	43		
American Ex....	47	47	47	47		
U. S. Ex....	64	64	64	64		
Gold....	111	111½	111½	111½	111½	111½

A comparison between yesterday's and to-day's quotations shows the following changes:

	Thurs.	Wed.	Adv.	Dec.
Central & Hudson....	97	98		⅛
Do. Scrip....	93¾	94¼		½
Erie....	90¾	90¾		
Reading....	101¾	101¾		
Lake Shore....	98½	99		½
Cleveland & Pittsburgh....	114½	115		½
Chicago & Northwestern....	79¾	79¾		
Do. preferred....	91¾	92		¼
Rock Island....	111¾	112		¼
St. Paul....	55	55½		
Do. preferred....	76½	77½		½
Toledo & Wabash....	54	54		
Fort Wayne....	97	96½		½
Ohio and Mississippi....	48	48¾		¾
Pacific Mail....	43½	42¾		¾
Adams Express....	69	69		
Gold....	111¼	111¾		½

FLOUR—Receipts 478 barrels. We quote the ruling figures as follows: National mill, (white wheat) in barrels $7 00; in sacks $7 60; Pan Handle, (Southern amber) in barrels $7 20, in sacks $6 90; Morning Glory, in barrels $6 80, in sacks $6 50; Palmetto, in barrels $7 05; in sacks $6 75. The store rates for standard western brands were as follows: Choice spring $7 60; choice Minnesota $7 25; choice winter $7 00 @ bbl, sacks $6 75; fancy do $7 25 @ bbl; sacks $7 00.

FOREIGN FRUITS—We are reported a fair demand, with regular sales as follows: Currants 12@20c @ lb; prunes 12½c; Valencia raisins 15c; layer raisins $3 25 per box.

FEATHERS—The demand is light, and we are reported sales live geese feathers No. 1 at 80c @ lb, to the trade.

GRAIN—The market was not an active one. The receipts were light, and sales were of a similar description. The receipts since our last were as follows: Oats, 861 sacks; rye, 120 sacks; barley, 124 sacks; wheat, 489 sacks; corn 160 sacks. The current rates with sellers were: Wheat—Market firm, with sales to a fair extent at, red winter 1 38@1 40; white $1 45, 1 48@1 50 @ bush. Oats firm with a good demand; previous prices were firmly maintained; we can report sales on wharf and from track at 55@66c; store, 58@60c. Corn—Ear firm and wanted, although prices have undergone non change; sales were made on wharf and from depot at 72@73c for prime yellow shelled; not wanted. Rye held firmly; we can report sales at $1 05@1 08 per bushel. Barley dull but no lower; we can report sales in store and spring at 80@85c per bushel.

GROCERIES—We have no changes to note in groceries, and are reported an active trade demand at the following figures:

Raw Sugars—New Orleans choice 11¼c; prime 10¾c; good 9¾c; fair 9c. Porto Rico—Choice 11½c; prime 11c; good 10¾c.

Refined Sugars—Hards 14c: A coffee 12½c; B coffee 12¾c; extra C 12¾c; C yellow 12@12½c; Demerara, 13@13½c; crushed 13½c @ lb.

Syrups—Fl and E 72c; white honey 76c; silverdrips 60c; extra honey 65c; lower grade 40 to 50c.

New Orleans Molasses—Good 65c; prime 70c; choice 72c.

Coffees—Strictly prime 20c; prime 19c; good 16½@17c; fair 15½@16½c; roasted in papers 22c.

Teas—Fancy Young Hyson $1 50; prime $1 25; fair $1 00; lower grades 80c; fancy Gunpowder $1 50; good $1 25; fair $1 00; Imperial fancy $1 40; good $1 25; fair $1 00; young Hyson $1 25; good 90c; fair 60@70c; Souchong fancy $1 20; good 90c; fair 70c; Japan fancy $1 00; good 90c; fair 75c.

Spices—Cassia 20c; Pimento 17c. Cloves 20c. Cassia 50c.

Rice—Sales of choice Carolina at 9½c; prime 9c.

HAY—Sales at $13@18 @ ton; receipts light.

HOPS—There is an improved demand, and new crop sells at 25@30c @ lb.

HIDES—Green salted (all weights) 14¾@14½c; green butchers' cow and steer, 7@8; green salted kip 14@15c; dry salted 16@18. Dry Flint nominal at 26@28.

HORSES—Regular sales at 3@3½c per lb.

HOMINY—Sales in a regular way at $5 00@5 50 for pearl.

HONEY—Regular sales made at 25@30c @ lb.

LIME—Sales Cleveland white $2 25 @ bbl.; Eastern $1 75.

LARD OIL—Pittsburgh, No. 1 @ 68@71 No. 2 @ 58@62 @ gal; Chicago and Cincinnati winter strained, $1 10 per gallon.

MILL FEED—Middlings, choice, $2 00; seconds, $1 75; shorts, $1 00; rye shorts, $1 65; chopped corn and cobs $1 65; chopped corn, $1 40; bolted corn meal, $5 per cent.

POTATOES—Supply in excess of demand and prices nominal at $1 25@1 40 @ bush. Sweet potatoes, $3 50@4 00 @ bbl.

PEANUTS—Sales at 6@8c for new Tennessee.

RYE FLOUR—Market firm at $5 50@5 75 @ bbl.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER.—Sales by the cans $1 50; ½ lb $1 00; 1 lb $2 00 per dozen.

RAGS—Regular sales at 3@4c @ lb.

SUMAC—Sales of Tennessee at 4½c per lb.

SALT—Sales by the cargo at 60@65c @ bbl; 50c; the retail at 70@75c @ bbl.

SEEDS—There is still an active demand, and sales, in lots, are regularly made, as follows: Cloverseed $6 75@7 00; timothy $2 50@2 75; flaxseed $2 15@2 20 @ bushel.

SAPOLIO—Sales at $6 50 per half gross.

SOAP—Colgate's sterling soap, $3 75 per box; Babbitt's, 1lc; Oakley's, 10½c; chemical for all description olives, 8c; Tonin, No. 1, 6c @ lb.

SODA—Sales in kegs 6c; boxes, assorted papers 8c; sal soda 3½c @ lb.

TALLOW—Sales of city refined at 8½@8¾c @ lb.

TURNIPS—Supply heavy and demand light; sales at 50c@60c @ bushel.

WOODENWARE—Pails, 2 hoop, $2 25; 3 hoop $2 65. Tubs, No. 1, 3 hoops, $11 00; No. 2, 2 hoops, $9 50; No. 3, 2 hoops, $8 50. Washboards, $1 75 @ dozen.

WILLOWS—Sales of Kentucky Willows at 10c @ lb.

WHISKY—The market is weak and prices barely nominal. We quote the following: Pittsburgh distillery, 56½ and 54½. A fresh "bull" movement in Union Pacific appears to be on the cards now that the company have the signature of Secretary Boutwell over a virtual promise, conveyed in the shape of a message to the financial agents in this city, that he will not demand payment of the interest, as was intimated he would in face of the suspicion, though perhaps not the letter, of the recent law passed by Congress. The Government also has commenced paying fifty per cent. in cash of transportation. Harlem and Erie presented an interesting contrast, the former going up to 137 and the latter declining to 20. The week's total railway earnings for the first week in March show an increase of $923 in Michigan Central, and an increase of $6,431 in Marietta and Cincinnati. Union Pacific for the month of February show a decrease of $194,570, and Central Pacific an increase of $86,969. The sudden decline in prices at the close was attributed to a further reduction in sterling exchange, owing to the rivalry of the trunk lines, rates being lowered 33⅓ per cent. from those just prevailing.

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Gloucester Fish Market.

For the week ending March 10th.

Codfish—In good receipt; market active; sales at $7@7 25 @ qtl.

Mackerel—But little doing the present week. Stock of Shore is gradually going off; last sales of No. 2 at $11. Shore is held at $23. No transactions in Bay.

Fresh Halibut—Bank in fair receipt; last sales at 8c @ cwt. for white, 2½ for gray. Smoked do—market dull, but sales at 13c @ lb.

Oil—Cod 62c @ gallon.

Fresh Herring—$1 25 @ 100.—*Cape Ann Advocate.*

Crops in Illinois.

A correspondent at Edwardsville, Ill., writes that the wheat "growing in Madison county looks well. Corn is plenty and cheap. There is not much old wheat in the county. Times are dull and money scarce."

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } Wednesday, March 15, 1871. }

To-day we give the report of the market for the week ending March 15th, 1871.

Cattle.

The run of cattle for the past three days of the week was fair, but they sold slow at quotations given below. Prices rule about the same as last week. We quote extra 1,200 to 1,500 steers at $6 25@6 87, though we heard of one lot extra prime from Ohio bringing a higher figure. The stock on hand is light, and markets being dull in the East, but little was done to-day. Below find closing quotations for to-day: Extra, 1,200 to 1,500 steers, $6 25@7 87; good to prime, 1,100 to 1,200, $5 50@6 00; common to medium, 1,000 to 1,100, $5 50; bulls, stags and cows, 300 to 1,500, $4 25@4 75; stock steers, 800 to 1,000, $4 25@5 50.

Hogs.

The arrivals of hogs were fair, and they found a market at rates given below. Good hogs bring better prices, and are scarce—common are fully equal to the demand. We quote the following as the ruling of the market: Extra Philadelphia $8; good to prime Philadelphia, 225 to 250, $7 50@7 75; good to prime New York, 180 to 220, $7; rough to common, $6 75; Light stock hogs, 80 to 100, not quotable.

Sheep.

The run of sheep was light to-day. The market has been a good one the past week. This is owing partly to the fact that the run has been light, parties are holding sheep back, preparatory to placing them on the market. The market closed firm fully ¼c higher than the closing figures of last week. Below find rates current to-day: Extra, 100 to 110 lbs, 6c 25 to 6 50; good to prime, 85 to 90 lbs, $5 75 to 6; decent to fair, 75 to 80 lbs, $5 25 to $5 50; mean to common, 70 to 75 lbs, $4 25 to $4 50; foot rot and scalawags, by the head, $1 50@2 50.

SALES.

Below we give the sales of cattle, hogs and sheep for the week ending Wednesday, March 15, by the principal stock dealers, from which the reader can gather a correct idea of the rulings of the market:

Cattle.

HOLMES, LAFFERTY & CLASS SOLD TO

White....	32	18,700 @ 5 00	$5 00
J. Wall....	5	1,100	5 50
J. Aurentz....	5	4,720	5 00
J. Aurentz....	4	4,910	5 75
J. Aurentz....	1	1,580	4 25
J. Wall....	2	2,470	5 25
J. Aull....	1 cow	3,800	45 00
Holmes & Co....		3,800	6 00
James McAuley....	15	19,230	6 55
James Martin....	7	9,150	6 50
James Martin....	26	30,650	6 30
James Martin....	1	2,220	5 00
Wm. Hines....	1	1,360	4 50
James Martin....	2	2,710	5 75
Jones & Murphy....	27	30,500	6 75
Jones & Murphy....	5	5,150	6 50
Wm. Kelly....	49	61,450	6 80
S. Smith....	16	16,650	6 20

HAZLEWOOD & BLACKSTOCK SOLD TO

Klemmens & Aull....	32	39,850	6 90
Klemmens & Aull....	56	60,750	6 95
A. G. Shafer....	5	5,150	6 90
A. G. Shafer....	25	18,800	6 80
J. W. Hamilton....	1	1,000	6 50

BRIDGES & TAYLOR SOLD TO

Gorman & Co....	1	1,230	5 50
T. Reichardt....	1	1,250	6 00
Gorman & Co....	1	27,990	6 50
Gorman & Co....	1	900	5 00
Gorman & Co....	1	11,800	6 25
Wm. Kelly....	13	14,750	5 75
Wm. Kelly....	1	1,150	6 00
George Driscoll....	1	1,000	6 50

Hogs.

HOLMES, LAFFERTY & CLASS SOLD TO

	No.	Weight.	Price.
E Smith....	77	9,700	7 05
E Smith....	57	11,350	7 15
E Smith....	57	10,750	7 15
E Smith....	57	9,900	7 10
McBride & Co....	6	1,250	7 30
McBride & Co....	21	4,060	7 30
H Adam....	3	470	6 50
H Adam....	2	360	6 50
E H Davis....	90	19,900	7 40
E H Davis....	72	16,000	7 40
E H Davis....	28	6,200	7 40

WILLOWS—Sales of Kentucky Willows at 10c @ lb.

WHISKY—The market is weak and prices barely nominal. We quote: Pittsburgh distillery, 56½ and 54½. A fresh "bull" movement in Union Pacific appears to be on the cards now that the company have the signature of Secretary Boutwell over a virtual promise, conveyed in the shape of a message to the financial agents in this city, that he will not demand payment of the interest, as was intimated he would in face of the suspicion, though perhaps not the letter, of the recent law passed by Congress. The Government also has comm

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1871.

TERMS.

One copy, per year.....$2 00
A club of twenty per year.....1 50
One copy gratis to the getter up of the club.

SUMNER DEPOSED—CAMERON PROMOTED.

We have heretofore expressed our conviction that the removal of Mr. SUMNER from the Chairmanship of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations would be a political blunder. Now, that the act has been consummated under circumstances of humiliation and affront to the Senator, and in a manner which can hardly fail to excite the indignation of his constituents as well as his friends and admirers in every State, we are compelled to characterize the measure as something worse than an error of judgment. There are too many evidences of petty spite, personal ill-will and even vindictiveness in this business, to command the respect of the Republican party and the public. This Senatorial degradation, which finds its only parallel in our history in the expulsion of Mr. DOUGLAS from the Chairmanship of the Committee on Territories, will work a similar result. It will react and make the Massachusetts Senator fifty times more formidable to his enemies, and we regret to say, to the Administration. To-day he stands before the country a Senator in spite of his faults and weaknesses the ablest of them all—who dares to follow the dictates of his judgment and conscience, who seeks no favor, dreads no party lash and despises the wretched intrigues which are sometimes *dignified* with the title of statesmanship.

We repeat what we have heretofore said, that Mr. SUMNER would have acted more wisely in voluntarily retiring from the Chairmanship of the Committee on Foreign Relations, and in selecting the floor of the Senate as the theater for the exhibition of his hostility (if hostility it may be called) to the foreign policy of the Administration. There is plausibility and perhaps justice in the position assumed, that there should be entire accord between the Administration and the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations in the Senate. It is perhaps only fair that the Executive should be consulted in the selection of the latter with reference to questions of foreign policy; and if such a man as TRUMBULL, FRELINGHUYSEN, EDMUNDS, MORTON, or HOWE had, with the approbation of the President, been selected to replace Mr. SUMNER, the party and the country would not have complained.

The objection to the proceeding goes to the manner of deposing Mr. SUMNER and the man selected to replace him. If Mr. SUMNER could not bring his mind to assent to the President's views about St. Domingo or any other matter, it is strange, indeed, that there was not wisdom enough in the Senate to deal with him and get him to leave the committee without resorting to humiliation and insult. It does not appear, however, that Mr. SUMNER was conferred with on the subject of retiring from the chief place on the committee. It was not represented to him that the interests of party harmony and of the President's foreign policy, which ought to have a fair trial, suggested strongly the expediency of his withdrawal. He was led to think that a majority of his party in the Senate desired him to retain his position on the Committee. There is reason to think that he was not mistaken on this subject. It required at the last moment the hunting up of absentees and the threat of the party lash to carry the measure through the caucus. TRUMBULL, the oldest Senator in continuous services, was opposed to it. LOGAN and WRIGHT, the youngest Senators, just fresh from the people, denounced the measure. Some pledged to support Mr. SUMNER voted against him. There is an air of conspiracy about this business which will not commend it to the public.

The worst feature remains to be noticed. Mr. SUMNER is deposed and Mr. CAMERON promoted. We have so often expressed our opinion of the last named Senator that it must be well known. Our own opinion is of little importance; but public opinion must have weight. Who in the country considers CAMERON equal to the duties of Chairman of this Committee at this time? The public will compare Mr. CAMERON with the man he replaces. He cannot escape from the scrutiny. If Mr. CAMERON is really possessed of the shrewdness which is accredited to him, he will decline the position. He cannot afford to be brought into comparison with Mr. SUMNER.

The President was consulted and expressed his own desire and that of the Secretary of State that Mr. SUMNER should be removed. This wish, made known to the Senators, was doubtless the immediate cause of the action of the Senate. The Presidential wish was doubtless potent enough to produce a change in the minds of many Senators—enough to carry the removal in caucus. Unfortunately for General GRANT, the public will come to the conclusion that the same wish dictated the selection of Mr. SUMNER'S successor. General CAMERON must henceforth be accepted as the representative of the administration. Let no man, friend or enemy of the Pennsylvania Senator, say that he was selected by the Senate to fill the important place of Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations without consultation with the President. SUMNER was removed *because* the President desired it. Mr. CAMERON *could not have been chosen by the same Senators without General Grant's approbation.* This is the logical deduction, and the Administration must take the responsibility of SUMNER'S deposition and the appointment of CAMERON. We say this in no unfriendly spirit, but simply record a most unfortunate political fact.

DEMOCRACY VS. GERMANY.

What is the secret of the unconquerable grudge which the Democratic press appears to bear against Germany and Germans, whether naturalized as citizens here, or serving under the banner of their country at home? The New York *World*, Chicago *Times*, and other leading journals of that ilk, seem to take the late victory of Germany over France as sullenly and with as much crabbed ill-temper as they took the successes of the Union troops over the rebel forces during our own war. The spiteful malice with which the triumph of King WILLIAM over the wanton assault made upon the German nation is regarded by papers of this class may be inferred from the following coarse extracts from the Chicago *Times*:

> Billy Rex, by the grace of God, Krupp guns, and scratch luck, kaiser of all Deutschland and conqueror of France, guesses that he will not enter Paris in person. *Harper's Weekly* has some of those sacrilegious French rognes might take a notion to pop a bullet through our imperial side, from behind a window, and we are not prepared to die just yet. We propose to gobble the rest of the little German States, snub England a few times more, and receive again the fondly congratulations from the President of Republican America, ere we lay our royal bones to rest forever."

This is an insult for which there is not the slightest shadow of an excuse. King WILLIAM has doubtless his ambitions and selfishnesses, like the rest of mankind, but the whole tenor of his life most flatly contradicts the impression sought to be conveyed by the above, that he is a coward and sneak. On what battle-fields did the *Times* win its right thus to attack the reputation of a man who, whatever his faults, has at least a heroic contempt of danger? Does it derive its authority from the courageous gallantry with which it hounded on the "fire in the rear" against our own soldiers who had gone forth to throttle the rebellion of its bosom friends? And here is another delectable paragraph from the same sheet:

> "There was once a man travelling in a desert country, accompanied only by his dog. Becoming pressed at last by the demands of an empty stomach, he cut off his dog's tail, roasted it, gnawed away the meat, and then gave the animal the bone to appease its own hunger. So Kaiser William treats his whelps of the lesser German States. All of the small fry were hungry for a bite at French possessions, but such a meal was not for them. Lopping off portions, and in some instances gobbling the whole of his curs' bodies corporate, Kaiser William has engulfed them all in his rapacious Prussian maw, and now he tosses back to them the rather unsatisfactory bone of allowing the monarch to lay at his feet the spoils as he strides in triumph through the wastes of a conquered capital."

"Whelps," "curs," mongrels." Well, it is of course natural that one should utter him self in the language of the class or species to which he belongs. But we have a fancy that our German fellow-citizens will be apt to recollect these epithets upon a future occasion. Men who are so grossly abused have generally terribly long memories. Or has our contemporary already given up the campaign of 1872 as hopeless? That it would appear so, and that this feeling of despair is not confined to itself alone, would seem to be indicated by an article in Tuesday's *World*, entitled "American sympathies the late war." It must be said for the credit of this journal that although it confesses the eternal distinctions of right and wrong in any equally hopeless way with that of its western confrere, its assaults on Germany and the Germans are made in a far less sneering and brutal manner. Even when advocating measures of the most atrocious nature, the *World* is always polished and polite. Whether at bottom there is any wide difference between murdering a man with a deft stroke from a shining rapier, and smashing in his skull with a bludgeon, is not after all so clear. The "smilingest villian" sometimes manages to cut the greatest number of throats. Open malignity tends to put people on their guard, but the civil speech of the crafty and covert foe is always to be dreaded. The *World* insists that the apparent sympathies of the American people with Germany was merely counterfeited and and assumed, in order to win German-American votes; and adds:

> "The exile of Carl Shurz and so many other noble and gifted men was a penalty for their keen sympathy with France and their emulation of a French example; and yet when the late war broke out between France and Prussia, these same men promptly sided with the country from whose tyranny they fled, and against the country whose example they had emulated."

Through a similar strain of courteously worded contemptuousness the article proceeds to cast discredit upon the sincerity of American professions of regard for Germany, and upon the veracity of our German fellow-citizens who profess to believe in it. Judging all men and all parties by its own standard of policy and self-interest, it has no faith in any spontaneous or uncalculative friendship. Gliding evermore in tortuous and serpentine ways, it appears utterly unable to comprehend the possibility that there may be direct and honest avenues of approach to honest and upright ends. We are sorry that this is so. It is a dreadful thing for a great journal to lie under the same doom pronounced of old on that other and still more able sophist: "Upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life." Possibly, however, it prefers this peculiar aliment and mode of locomotion.

THE GREAT TYRANNY.

The decree of the late Senatorial caucus deposing Mr. SUMNER from the chairmanship of the Committee on Foreign Relations, so speedily and faithfully executed by the Senate itself, will arouse the attention of the public to the demoralizing tendencies of this modern *imperium in imperio* which acknowledges no responsibility, but exacts a more than servile obedience. The Legislative caucus were originally nothing more than a meeting, not always secret of the members of a party in a legislative body, to exchange opinions, concert measures, and form and collect the general judgment of the party in subordination to the duties of the invidual legislator as defined by law and his solemn oath. Of doubtful propriety and morality from the beginning, the caucus degenerated first into intrigue, and has now touched the depths of hateful tyranny. Heretofore it assailed the independence and purity of the legislature by a powerful but secret influence; to-day it dares to show its hideous face in the United States Senate demanding the execution of its bloody behests by its willing and unwilling headsman.

Mr. SUMNER was not removed from the committee by the votes of a majority of the Senators as Senators. We have the sad painful confession of men in whom the country justly places confidence, that while their views of public duty, judgments and consciences were *against* the proposed removal, they felt constrained to support the decree of the caucus. One goes farther, and we have his confession of wrong, his exhortation to wrong and his vote for the wrong, all on the same record. Messrs. MORRILL, SHERMAN, and others who helped to execute the decree, after having resisted it in caucus, are no doubt good citizens and upright legislators, but they are none the less the instruments of a public wrong. TRUMBULL, WILSON, SCHURZ, LOGAN, TIPTON, and others had brave words to utter against the tyranny and injustice, but not one of them dared to *vote* against the caucus nominee. One class of Senators admitting that they each vote against their conscience, and and another abdicating their functions and refusing to vote at all! Senator WILSON called the proceeding a farce. If he had described it as a scene of national humiliation and Senatorial degradation, his words would have had meaning. Twenty-one Senators, numbering among them the ablest and purest of the body, chained down to the ground—sinking the Senator in the servant of a tyrant! To put the case again: A Senator is elected to represent a State. His judgment and conscience, his views of public duty, are presumed to guide him in the discharge of his public trust. He is, indeed, presumed to have been chosen with reference to these qualities. He goes to Washington, and is informed that he must attend the caucus, or be considered outside of the party organization. He attends the caucus, and is informed that he is bound by its decrees—that his own opinion, judgment, conscience, wishes of his constituents, even oath of office, go for nothing. Does he think a proposed measure unconstitutional, and he has taken an oath to support the Constitution? The caucus says: "Raise no scruples here. Obey us, or be kicked out. Your highest responsibility is to us."

It is a mistake to suppose that the caucus numbers in its majority the mass of the party it professes to represent. In the recent Senatorial caucus twenty-six gave the law to the Senate composed of seventy-two members. Of these twenty-six it is well known that several were dragooned into its service. Cunning is here a more valuable quality than honesty; intrigue is more potent than statesmanship.

The caucus has chopped off the heads of a good many political friends, but has not succeeded in making any votes among the people. If we are not mistaken it has given *itself* a dangerous if not fatal wound. Let it die "unwept and unhonored" and be buried out of sight.

DESPOTISM AND EDUCATION.

Here and there all over the country there are indications of increased interest in the subject of education. People are evidently beginning to comprehend the necessity of compelling extremely ignorant and indifferent parents to send their children to school. The subject is really one that presents no serious theoretical difficulties, by which we mean that the grounds of action in the matter are so obvious and free from embarrassing objections as to command the assent of every rational and well meaning man who gives them his earnest and candid attention. It is true that objections are easily found, and probably seven of the first ten adherents of the so-called Democratic faith, whom you may address, will set off vehemently and wax ever more eloquent in stating reasons why they could never support or countenance compulsory education. What! they are likely to say—what! if poor people, ignorant themselves from the necessities of their lot in life, choose that their children shall grow up in ignorance, who dares interfere with them in the exercise of so manifest a right? To interfere would be flat despotism, inconsistent with the first principles of democratic government. Tyrannical German kings may trample on poor men's rights by making them allow their children to attend school, but, thank the Lord, we live in a free country, in which ignorance as well as knowledge has its rights. Any one who listens patiently or impatiently may hear much more bosh of this sort talked on the subject. But the truth generally is that the speaker either has never seriously studied the topic, or else he is deliberately imposing upon his hearers for his own selfish ends. No man of sense doubts the right of society to take care of itself, to remove or to counteract so far as possible all those causes of which the proper tendency is to injure and destroy the social state. Of these causes, ignorance is one of the most destructive. Fortunately in this country, a large proportion of the people feel the importance of educating their children, but there are a great many who do not. Their indifference is a part of their painful lot, even as it is a consequence of the dark inheritance transmitted to them by their fathers. Left to their own instincts, they will faithfully transmit it to their posterity. Benevolence and patriotism alike forbid that they shall be allowed to do so. In many cases a slight effort is all that is required to enlist them in the cause of the intellectual advancement of their offspring. Let their children begin to go to school and become interested in knowledge, and its rays soon begin to enlighten and elevate the neglected parents. They begin to sympathise with their children in the pursuit of knowledge, and to perceive how foolish had been their prejudices, and how unreasonable and unjust had been their clamors against imaginary tyranny. And, in the course of no long time, they discover that in compelling them to submit to the intellectual education of their families the State had really taken measures for their material comfort and improvement. The children are qualified for higher and more lucrative employment than their parents, or if they follow the same occupations with them, remaining mere unskilled laborers, they are yet prepared to earn better wages, and the parents, in their old age, enjoy the advantages of the education which they vainly strove to prevent. The statement is not drawn from the imagination, but from actual experience. It is a mere report of facts, related by persons who have observed the effects of legally enforced education in other countries. Thus, Dr. MCCOSH, in his address at Trenton a few days ago, stated that after carefully examining the schools in Prussia, he was satisfied that the compulsory system there kept up was the true principle, and that, contrary to an impression common on this side of the Atlantic, he could not find that it was ever complained of. The truth is that, properly understood, the system will never be complained of by any who do not complain that the State provides means for the maintenance of order and for the security of life and property.

METHODISM.

The Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church have been engaged in holding the sessions of the Annual Conferences of that numerous and influential denomination since the 14th of December last. Sixteen of the seventy-two conferences into which the church is divided, have at this date been held; and on the 15th the sessions of the Philadelphia, the Kansas and the Pittsburgh Conferences will begin their respective sessions.

In the absorbing interest which the Franco-Prussian war has awakened and maintained, it has escaped that notice which it would seem to have deserved, that since the session of these conferences a year ago, a revolution in the polity of Methodism then in progress, has been carried to its successful consummation, in so far, at least, as the action of the Annual Conferences could consummate it. The tacit or acknowledged theory of Methodism has heretofore been, that the government of the Church was in its ordained itinerant ministry. For the laity its legislation pertained only to matters spiritual and pastoral oversight. The voluntary principle was allowed to operate to the utmost verge consistent with their interpretation of the explicit teachings of the New Testament.

In consistency with its theory, its only legislative body was composed exclusively of Ministers—and this constituted also its highest Court of Appeal. Whatever may be the merits or demerits of the system there is no possibility of doubting the facts set forth in its century of history, of its stupendous growth and the almost marvelous multiplication of its membership, its increase in wealth, position and power, and its abundant prosperity in all material and religious interests. Its rapidity of progress is perhaps unexampled, save in the era of the primitive church. Whether this success was largely due to the singularity of its government, which left its ministry untrammelled and secured to them a peculiar freedom of action, is a matter concerning which there have been and still are differences of opinion; and indeed, all through its history there have been greater or less efforts making to change the practice of the church and popularize its government. The result of these efforts, viz.: the creation of a sentiment sufficiently strong to induce the General Conference of 1868 to submit the matter to the vote of the people, as to whether a representation should be given to the laity of the church at the subsequent sessions of that body; and also to submit to the Annual Conferences, for rejection or approval, a plan for the introduction of lay representation—and the fact that the requisite majorities of both laity and ministry were found in favor of the change—these are all matters of history now, and the new principle of a conjoint clerical and lay government is now accepted and acquiesced in by all parties in the church. The plan concurred in by the Annual Conferences provides for the appointment of one layman by each of the several quarterly conferences of the several conferences, and these laymen shall constitute an electoral conference to meet on the third day of the session of the Annual Conference immediately preceding the General Conference, there and then to elect not more than two laymen as their lay representatives in the General Conference. The statistics and ratio of representation will make the General Conference upon this plan to be constituted with a large preponderance of ministerial members, thus giving to them on any joint vote a very considerable majority. But that this may be neutralized, the plan provides that:

> "At all times when the General Conference is met, it shall take two thirds of the whole number of ministerial and lay delegates to form a quorum for transacting business.
>
> "The ministerial and lay delegates shall sit and deliberate together as one body, but they shall vote separately whenever such separate vote shall be demanded by one-fourth of either order, and in such cases the concurrent vote of both orders shall be necessary to complete an action."

By this arrangement it will be seen that it would be competent or possible for a bare majority of either order to prevent the passage of any measure which might be proposed. Suppose now that a bare majority of the 216 ministerial and 72 lay members in the General Conference, it would be competent to transact business when there were present 144 ministerial and 48 lay members, or upon a strict construction of the law, perhaps, an aggregate membership present of 192 in any proportion would be sufficient. Upon the same strict construction a separate vote could be secured by the call of two-thirds of two-thirds of the entire ministerial or lay membership, and it will therefore be readily seen that a case might arise in which it would be possible for a very small majority of either of the constituent parts of the body to absolutely lock the wheels of legislation.

For this and for other reasons there seems to be apparent in the Church a disposition to secure a fuller lay representation, and to obtain the sanction of the Conferences to give instructions to their delegations to provide for an equalization of lay and clerical representation, and also to have them in inseparable connection—and that no distinction as to voting and action in the General Conference shall be made. This it is contended will be safer for the Church, less liable to the revival of the obnoxious charges of "hierarchy," "oligarchy," and "caste," as well as being much more republican. Some such movement will perhaps be made in the Conferences now about to assemble.

Another question previously somewhat mooted, has suddenly, under the inspiration of the Bishops' course in regard to the "Book Committee," assumed an importance which was hardly looked for, and is likely to be THE question of the few years to come—that is the question as to the modification of the Episcopacy. The propriety of its life tenure of office is strongly questioned. It is claimed to be not in accord with the spirit of the age. It is held to be anti-republican, and especially now since the adoption of the new principle in the government, it is by many accounted dangerous to the liberties of the ministry and laity to vest for life such prerogatives and powers in an independent body, holding their office for life and receiving their support from a source different from that upon which other ministers are dependent; and it is thought that their influence thrown into the scale may tend to prevent the accomplishment of purposes deemed to be wise and necessary by a majority of both laity and ministry. It is farther said that the life tenure of office removes them too far from the masses of the ministry and membership of the church, and creates an isolated class. Many have conceived the idea that, as they are simply officers, the creation of the General Conference, their term of office, like that of all other General Conference officers, should determine and close with the assembling of each General Conference, so that each of these delegated bodies should have the privilege of electing the officers for its own session and quadrennium.

Other modifications are also attracting the attention of the newspapers and the leading minds of the church, such as the doing away with the Presiding Eldership, forming Episcopal districts, fixing the Episcopal residences, the relation of woman in the church, and the right to ordination to the work of the ministry, &c., &c.; and the tendency would appear to be to make the change in the constituent elements of the chief legislative body of the denomination the signal for a leveling process, both down and upward, so as to conform the institutions of the church to the most approved and radical republicanism, and to accord with the demands of the most liberal and enlightened spirit and progress of the age; so that in government as well as in doctrines it shall be the broadest church in the land.

Meantime, there is also a slight ruffling of its peace in regard to doctrine, or to a particular phase of religious belief and personal experience. It is alleged that the so-called doctrine of "Holiness," or "Christian Perfection," as the elder writers term it, is by certain parties in the Church pushed to an extreme, and given undue prominence to the damage and lessening of the doctrine of justification. The same subject has found a wider sphere of discussion outside of this denomination under the name of "the higher life," and camp meetings of enormous proportions, in that interest; and special services for the promotion of the doctrine have been held, and are being appointed in many different parts of the country. This difference is, however, the only doctrinal difference in the denomination, apparent as a disturbing element, and is not, perhaps, likely to result in any serious trouble, or occasion any loss. In the investigations which it may cause the doctrinal lines may be drawn more distinctly, and its theological definitions and science may be made more exact, and it may acquire a greater precision in its interpretation and application of particular passages of Holy Writ: and thus its doctrinal sytem to its minutest peculiarities may become better understood and more widely appreciated.

Whatever may be the result with reference to the matters now largely receiving the thought and attention of the church, we may be allowed to express the hope that the magnificent history of its first century may be followed by a record which shall be abundantly worthy of the illustrious past. Its present status may be seen from the summary of its statistics published at the close of its round of Conference sessions for 1870:

Its traveling preachers then numbered	9,193
Its local preachers	11,401
Its membership was reported at	1,173,099
Its probationers were	194,035

Giving a total membership of....1,387,731

In its 16,912 Sunday Schools there were 189,412 officers and teachers, 1,221,393 scholars, and 2,759,122 volumes in libraries. It has 13,373½ churches, valued at $52,614,591; 4,179 parsonages valued at $7,293,513. It baptized 66,481 adults and 50,453 infants. It contributed for the support of its Conference claimants composed of superannuated ministers, widows and orphans, $129,898 81. For missions, $641,482 22; for church extension $67,246 14; for Tract Society, $21,786 32; for American Bible Society, $84,711 61, and for the Sunday School Union, $22,736 52. The grand total of the money thus contributed being $960,861 62.

Is it true that there is less regard for human life in the United States than in any other Christian country? The allegation is often made and there is surely no lack of facts which seem to give it plausibility. Foreigners who visit us, are struck with the absence along our railroads of many of those precautions against accidents with which they have been familiar on the railroads of other countries, while Americans who travel on the railroads of Europe, in the presence of easily and cheaply affected arrangements for safety, find themselves wondering at the recklessness to which they have been accustomed at home. Then, it really appears that nowhere else in the Christian world are the impressions produced by a frightful railroad catastrophe so speedily effaced as in the United States. Americans are excitable, imaginative, sympathetic and easily moved to compassion for the sufferers and their friends, and to indignation against those whose avarice or indifference has occasioned the calamity. The pity is that the sentiments awakened do not last long enough in their first intensity to bring forth the proper and desirable results in action. We are really satisfied with the promise of amendment, and our anger with wrong vanishes in the hope of better performance in the time to come. In so far as indulgence proceeds from this cause it may be admitted to be amiable. But the fear of making enemies is a powerful promoter of the moral weakness to which we refer among a people nearly every third man of whom secretly or openly indulges the hope of securing sooner or later, more or less distinguished political preferment. According to the *Scientific American* there were last year in the United States not less than one hundred and eighteen steam boiler explosions, by which three hundred and twenty-six men were killed and two hundred and twenty-seven were wounded or scalded. The same high authority believes that such accidents might be prevented, or at least rendered of very rare occurrence, by a properly organized and managed system of inspection, but has no hope that the remedy can be successfully applied. Whatever measures were provided, politics would corrupt their operation. In too many cases conscience and principle would be powerless in the presence of political influences, and of the dreads and expectations which they inspire.

ON WHAT a hollow foundation of flattery and corruption did the "glory" and "prestige" of NAPOLEONISM rest. The secret papers of the Second Empire have just been exhumed and published, and the commentary they form on the vanity, falsehood, deception and intrigue which characterized the reign of "the nephew of his uncle," is of the most bitter and ironical character imaginable, when considered in connection with the pompous boastings with which he inaugurated war, and with his late pitiful protesting whine over the downfall of his "dynasty." And what a terrible revealing glimpse of the chronic moral insincerity of French character is afforded by the complimentary letters of certain distinguished scholars and authors to whom he had presented gift copies of his "Life of Cesar." OCTAVE FEUILLET, having received a copy, fawns upon him like a spaniel. JULES SANDEAU insults the shades of CESAR by asserting that the Emperor has conferred upon his memory "the fresh luster" of his own greatness. And the Archbishop of Besancon declares that he thinks JULIUS CESAR was exceedingly fortunate in having conquered the Gauls and composed his commentaries, "since otherwise the Emperor would have done both." And so on through a long list of literati, savans and statesmen. It is as sad and humiliating as the sycophantic cry of that other cringing crowd who, two thousand years ago, prostrated themselves before HEROD, and shouted "it is the voice of a God and not of a man." What lasting triumphs of political government or social order can be expected from a people in whom the malady of parasitism lies so deep? Revelations such as these indicate anything else, rather than the possession of that thoughtful spirit of manly self-respect, out of which enduring institutions can alone grow. Poor France!

RECENTLY, MRS. E. DE GEER delivered a lecture at Chicago in defense of Free Masonry, in the course of which she said, in reference to the objection that it was an oath-bound society: Was there anything wrong in an oath? Had not God himself given an oath to his servants in olden times? What was the baptismal covenant but an oath, or the marriage contract, or the naturalization paper, or the obligation assumed by every public servant of all the governments of earth? And so, too, of secrecy. Was that a crime? Was not the bible full of justifications of this? Governments were full of State secrets. The child confides its secrets to the parent, the parent to his wife, the client to the lawyer, the Catholic to his priest, the patient to his physician. When all secrets died out of the world, it would be a day far removed from this.

THE singular fact is shown that the Australian colonies assisted in the revictualing of Paris. Cooked meats from these localities were of good service, as fuel as well as food was short. In anticipation of a successful sortie from the capital, the French government stored many tons of these meats as near as possible to the city. These stores were available immediately after the signing of the armistice, and ten days previously one firm alone dispatched from London to Paris, more than a quarter million canisters of Australian beef and mutton. During the siege these meats were largely served out as rations, and at one time, when prices were at the highest point, a six pound canister sold for four pounds.

THE St. Louis papers and people are just now congratulating themselves on the completion of their new water works, and with pardonable pride they point other cities to the fact that the cost of the same was $250,000; as indicative of their public spiritedness in the matter. We rejoice with them that they can now drink pure water, for we know how disagreeable it is to be compelled to quench one's thirst with liquid Mississippi mud. But what do their old whisky works cost them? Unless they have of late amended their habits the annual outlay expended in this direction exceed by ten-fold the meagre outlay over which they are now driving themselves airs.

A WASHINGTON paper informs us that Mr. ORTH, who failed to be returned to Congress, and has been expecting the German Mission, has gone home in no amiable frame of mind toward General GRANT, who proposes to retain Mr. BANCROFT. This is a pleasant piece of news, and we wish we might have similar reports concerning some score of left-at-home "distinguished" individuals who are besieging the President to "take care" of them. This thing has grown into a great scandal, and the civil service is becoming an immense hospital for rejected and broken down politicians. Mr. ORTH, we believe, is a respectable gentleman of fair capacity, but it would have been a great mistake confer on him the appointment he sought. It would be a mistake to recall Mr. BANCROFT at the present time. To do so would be placing the needs of politicians without occupation (and also probably without qualification) above the honor and welfare of our country abroad,—the very thing, we grieve to say, that has been done to an extent that may well cause our countymen to hang their heads. General GRANT could do nothing more proper than to make a thorough revision of the list of the representatives of our country abroad, in the determination to make the United States appear respectable in the eyes of other countries.

THE million-minded New York *Herald* can quote more Scripture and practice less of it than almost any other journal in the country. Its Sunday issue has no less than seven different editorials on religious subjects, in all of which the question under reference is treated in a manner at once so exhaustive, authoritative, sympathetic and persuasive—and with such marvelous fecundity of thought, felicity of language and beauty of illustration—that the charmed reader is at once impressed with the idea that the *Herald* must be a sort of confidential adviser to the Infinite. It is delightful, too, to learn that "Mr. BEECHER is in perfect harmony with the *Herald*," and that the *Herald* promises to "abide by him," as well as by his Holiness the Pope and every one of the multitudinous oppugnent sects and creeds which come under its benignant notice. "The power of the *Herald* and the power of Plymouth Church," it gleefully exclaims—"what can resist such a combination?" To which we answer, surely nothing can resist it, only it has somewhat the sound of a playbill or a circus placard, and induces us to fear that unless the *Herald* is indulging in a bit of irony, the eloquent pulpit orator has indeed made himself "friends of the mammon of unrighteousness." However, we are glad to observe these indications of piety on the part of our contemporary. To be sure they have been a considerable time in making their appearance, and we could have wished they bore a little less evidence of coquetry and more of earnestness, but it is something gained when a man snaps his fingers in the face of DIABOLUS on Sunday, even if he does serve him faithfully all the other days of the week.

IT IS not an encouraging sign that a man like WENDELL PHILLIPS, ranking as one of the most cultivated, polished and influential leaders of the public mind, at the very height of the crisis in the anthracite region should stimulate the workingmen by words of denunciation to still greater excitement and probably violence and law breaking. If ever there was a time when orators and leaders of public opinion should appeal to men's reason only, assist to calm their excited passions, and lend their efforts to procure a settlement of the dangerous differences which exist, it is the present. Mr. PHILLIPS is ready to cry "fire," but never to pour on water. If there can be found anything that will add to the combustion and intensify the heat, he is sure to go in search of it. If Mr. PHILLIPS is not an agrarian, his words, framed into appeals and denunciations, belie him. He unquestionally tells some unwelcome truths, has an incomparable nack for uttering sharp things, and has no competitor for coolness in standing up for his opinions; but he has the least regard for the manner and opportunity, so that the greatest good may come of the use of his abilities, of any man alive. He may be compared to a man with a broadax, going about cutting and slashing at random. In the present instance, though professing to be a warm friend of the workingmen, by influencing their passions when it is solely by the exercise of reason they can hope to emerge from their present difficulty, he shows that in reality, though not intending it, he is their worst enemy. We don't know, however, that in this Mr. PHILLIPS has acted more indiscreetly than usual,—we should say that he has simply been true to himself, and of no service to anybody—and if his course is not of incalculable injury to many it will be because those for whose ears his hot words were intended did not choose to listen to them.

THE Washington correspondent of the *Independent* very recently made the statement, on the authority of Mr. COLFAX, that the Russian Minister had said that during the Rebellion Great Britain, in concert with France, had proposed to Russia to recognize the Confederacy, which proposal Russia, our friend promptly and indignantly repelled. This assertion *Harper's Weekly*, after expressing the opinion that the letter wherein it was made was written with the knowledge of Mr. COLFAX, says "is wholly without foundation," and further expresses the belief that the purpose of making it at this time was to "embarrass the Joint High Commission," and "make the negotiation more difficult by exciting American jealousy of Great Britain." This amounts to a serious charge against Mr. COLFAX, and is all the more noticeable for his well-known caution, the relations he holds in the administration and the close personal intimacy between him and General GRANT.

THE fact that Senator AMES, of Mississippi who is Gen. BUTLER'S son-in-law, voted to depose SUMNER, is causing considerable comment. There are two leading suggestions in the case: first, that BUTLER is hankering for SUMNER'S place in the Senate, which loses much of its force in view of the fact that the treatment SUMNER is receiving will make him all the stronger in Massachusetts. Second, that BUTLER has an eye—that eye—on the Presidency, and is on the alert to hang mill stones to GRANT'S neck, like that which this SUMNER business has attached thereto. There are a good many riddles to vex the mind just now, and this is not the least puzzling of the batch.

MR. REVELS, the colored Senator from Mississippi, has set an example which a great many white men might with propriety imitate. Governor ALCORN declining to accept the seat in the Senate to which he had been elected, the friends of Mr. REVELS urged him to come home and attend to his own fortunes, as by doing so he could be elected. This he firmly but courteously declined to do, but at the same time would not conceal the fact that he would feel gratified were he to be elected. His conduct stands out in strong and gratifying contrast with that, in these latter days, of aspirants generally to Senatorial honors, and will be applauded by right minded men everywhere.

RECENTLY, MRS. E. DE GEER delivered a lecture at Chicago in defense of Free Masonry, in the course of which she said, in reference to the objection that it was an oath-bound society: Was there anything wrong in an oath? Had not God himself given an oath to his servants in olden times? What was the baptismal covenant but an oath, or the marriage contract, or the naturalization paper, or the obligation assumed by every public servant of all the governments of earth? And so, too, of secrecy. Was that a crime? Was not the bible full of justifications of this? Governments were full of State secrets. The child confides its secrets to the parent, the parent to his wife, the client to the lawyer, the Catholic to his priest, the patient to his physician. When all secrets died out of the world, it would be at a day far removed from this.

THE singular fact is shown that the Australian colonies assisted in the revictualing of Paris. Cooked meats from these localities were of good service, as fuel as well as food was short. In anticipation of a successful sortie from the capital, the French government stored many tons of these meats as near as possible to the city. These stores were available immediately after the signing of the armistice, and ten days previously one firm alone dispatched from London to Paris, more than a quarter million canisters of Australian beef and mutton. During the siege these meats were largely served out as rations, and at one time, when prices were at the highest point, a six pound canister sold for four pounds.

THE St. Louis papers and people are just now congratulating themselves on the completion of their new water works, and with pardonable pride they point other cities to the fact that the cost of the same was $250,000; as indicative of their public spiritedness in the matter. We rejoice with them that they can now drink pure water, for we know how disagreeable it is to be compelled to quench one's thirst with liquid Mississippi mud. But what do their old whisky works cost them? Unless they have of late amended their habits the annual outlay expended in this direction exceed by ten-fold the meagre outlay over which they are now driving themselves airs.

MRS. Catherine Blair, aged one hundred years and four months and seven days, died recently at her residence in Plain township, Stark county, Ohio. She was born in Adams county, Pennsylvania, October 4th, 1770; married August 21st, 1798, to Samuel Blair, who died January 18th, 1867, in his ninetieth year, the couple having lived together sixty-nine years. They emigrated to Stark county about the year 1818, and continued to live on in the same place until their decease.

THE Michigan prohibitionists, at their recent convention in Jackson, declared in favor of the "immediate enfranchisement of women on terms of full and perfect equality with men."

WHATEVER residuum of truth may lie at the bottom of the reckless wholesale charges of mismanagement and corruption alleged against the administrations of Republican Southern States, it is evident that Governor SCOTT, of South Carolina, has the true welfare of the Commonwealth over which he presides sincerely at heart. Some time ago he publicly announced his determination to veto all bills, of whatever character, the passage of which involved an increase of the State debt, and he has faithfully kept his word. There has been no addition of any kind to the State indebtedness during the whole period of the legislative session, now just adjourned. Strenuous and systematic efforts were made by a large number of interested parties to induce the State to loan its credit to certain railroad schemes to the amount of four millions or more, at least one of which enterprises, we have reason to believe, would result to solid public advantage. But the Governor stood firm, and after a hard struggle they were all defeated. At his suggestion a new bill to fund all the existing liabilities of the State in a new sterling loan, was passed; the most valuable feature of the measure, and that upon which he most insisted, being the absolute prohibition of any increase of the public debt until such loan is paid, unless the said increase be authorized by a direct two-thirds vote of the people of the State. In the last hours of the session he vetoed a bill making appropriation for legislative expenses, on the ground that it included a fraudulent item of nearly $100,000; the veto being sustained. This wise economy is already beginning to tell, in the cutting down of estimates and the reduction of taxation for the ensuing year. Governor SCOTT has been blamed without stint for the crime of being a "carpet-bagger." Let us see now whether his assailants will award him the credit he deserves.

THE New York *Times* refers to the activity of the Democratic party in preparing for the next Presidential election, in comparison with the apathetic attitude of the Republicans. The South, it says, is confidently expected to strike hands with Tammany, and with Hoffman as their candidate, the Democracy hope to gain control of the Government. The *Times* thinks the country "needs the Republican party now as much as it did during the years of the war," and predicts that, with HOFFMAN in the President's chair, "the work of Union and peace will be undone as fast as local circumstances will permit," admitting, however, the division of opinion among Republican leaders in this behalf. The suicidal policy of hacking each other with their own weapons was now in vogue, and Democratic eagerness to encourage the combatants was but natural. While it might be said that the heart of the country was sound, great causes have been endangered and ruined by a much smaller degree of apathy, carelessness and indifference, than now prevail in the Republican ranks. The *Times* concludes by saying that "if Senator Sumner would give us his views on this subject he might do greater service, and act more in accordance with the high reputation which he enjoys. Truth, once in a very great while. But here is a genius so entirely creative and original, that he turns his back upon her at the very outset. Good-bye, DON. Be quick about it, MORAT.

AT Cincinnati, last week, a novel propelling machine, for use on canal boats, was tested with satisfaction. The object of the invention is to obviate the "warp," so destructive to rudder and tow of canals. It consists of two reciprocating propellers, adapted by their construction to act in a manner similar to the tail of a fish. They consist of solid blades of India rubber, tapering in thickness and clamped or bolted by their thick edges between malleable irons attached to a shaft, which passes up through the stern of the boat. The rubber tails being submerged in the water, the shaft to which they are attached passes down through the stern deck of the boat. From this stern deck is the engine, with the piston rod projecting from both ends. By means of a slide, each rod is fastened directly to the arm of the shaft, and the engine thus simply moves the rubber tails after the manner of a fish, with a surprisingly easy and natural motion.

IN AN article upon the "causes of business disasters," the Philadelphia *North American* regards it as surprising that business men and bankers will stand by staunch and good firms to fail from deficiency of capital at a critical moment, when they must know that such failures foster public distrust, cramp credit, render discounters uneasy and retard trade. In the investigation of a number of recent failures, it has been shown that the majority of them occurred, not through extended credits nor bad management, but from inadequacy of capital. Our contemporary suggests that the principal banks and leading associated banks, of not allowing one of their number to fail if its condition is such as to warrant the extension of help, should be extended to commerce, and firms possessing force